

Tories plan to break-up large council estates

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

The Government has begun planning the break-up of Britain's large-scale council estates and hopes eventually to end the role of councils as landlords altogether.

As a first step, ministers are considering within the next 3-10 years putting an upper limit on the amount of housing in any area that a council can own.

Mr John Patten, the Minister for Housing, reveals in an exclusive interview today with *The Times* his thinking on future policy, that the Government aims to diversify the ownership, management and tenure of council estates, bringing in building societies and pension funds to buy the properties and having them managed by housing associations and tenants' co-operatives.

Ministers are considering plans to give the tenants of council homes (which presently number 4.5 million and include 1.5 million flats) which will be left when the Right-to-Buy programme has run its course the right to band together in groups and to opt out of council control.

A little-noticed provision in the Housing and Planning Act 1986, which came into force yesterday, allows local authorities to delegate the



Mr John Patten: Tenants can opt out of council control down such requests, Mr Patten said: "If that does happen then in the first Housing Act after the election of the next Conservative Government we would have to give them the positive right to vote themselves out of council ownership."

management of houses and flats to other bodies such as tenant management co-operatives with the consent of the Secretary of State for the Environment. It also gives tenants' groups the right to have such a proposition from them put on the council agenda.

Asked what the Government would do if councils proved obstructive and turned



Prince Edward arriving back at the Royal Marines camp at Lympstone, Devon yesterday and, below, the Prince on the assault course at the camp in 1982.

Prince to consider his future

By Peter Davenport, Defence Correspondent

Prince Edward returned to his Royal Marines training base yesterday to decide finally if he is to go ahead and give up his military career.

A Buckingham Palace spokesman said the Prince was "considering his future" now that his desire to leave has been made known.

He will go through the same counselling process that any trainee officer wishing to leave has to undergo, first an interview with the officer commanding the training course, Major Paul Bascroft and then the camp commandant, Colonel Ian Moore.



BMA withdraws Aids sex advice

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

The British Medical Association yesterday withdrew its controversial advice that people who have had sexual affairs in the last four years should not donate blood because of the risk of spreading Aids.

The association was forced to climb down after intense pressure from the Department of Health and Social Security, and from critics within the blood transfusion service.

Sir Donald Acheson, the Government's chief medical officer, had made it clear that the BMA's advice, publicized on Monday, would seriously threaten the supply of blood to the transfusion service.

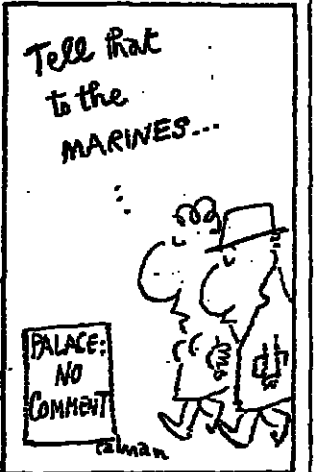
He contradicted the association's recommendation and said people who have had more than one sexual partner in recent years should not be deterred from offering blood.

The BMA abandoned its stance after a quickly arranged meeting yesterday with Sir Donald. In a joint statement, it said it "regretted that its views on blood donors had been misunderstood."

The association said that in particular, it did not claim that "anyone who has had more than one sexual partner in the past four years should not volunteer to donate blood."

Instead, it said it "fully supported" existing guidelines for blood donors, which name specific risk groups as undesirable donors. These include homosexuals, drug injectors, haemophiliacs, those who have had sex with people in sub-Saharan African countries and the sexual partners of those groups.

Both the association and the department were satisfied that



Tell that to the MARINES... PALACE: NO COMMENT

'Trade crisis will force early poll'

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

Mr Roy Hattersley, Labour's Shadow Chancellor, claimed yesterday that the Government was engaged in a race against time to hold off a balance of payments crisis long enough to call an election.

Mr Hattersley's claim, set out in a document presented to the two-day conference of Labour's shadow Cabinet at a trades union college in Bishop's Stortford, said that it was possible that the crisis could be held off until the spring.

But if the Government attempted to hold on until October it would have to choose between a revision of policy and the risk of a major crisis.

"The economic situation must lead to the conclusion that the Government will cut and run in May or June," Mr Hattersley said. The party leader, predicted that the election would focus on the economy and that Labour would beat the Conservatives "out of sight".

Mr Hattersley's paper sharpened the election debate by accusing the Government

of promoting policies which it knew to be damaging to the long term interests of Britain.

Britain's balance of payments had seen the largest monthly deficit in history in September. The October figure had been revised down from an initial surplus to a deficit of £25 million. The November deficit had escalated to £250 million.

Meanwhile, the Treasury's forecast for the full year had deteriorated from a surplus of £4 billion in the 1985 autumn Statement to a break even figure in this year's Statement.

The balance of payments record had only failed to produce a collapse of sterling, said Mr Hattersley, because the dollar had been undermined by uncertainty about President Reagan's health. The Opec agreement had temporarily increased confidence in currencies dependent on oil and the highest level of real interest rates in history.

Mr Hattersley's paper was noticeably short on remedies. It promised only that the Labour Government would concentrate available resources on investment.

INSIDE

Deng tells police to be firmer

Mr Deng Xiaoping, the Chinese elder statesman, has made a long-awaited intervention in the issue of student demonstrations.

Informal sources said Mr Deng had issued a memorandum to the security authorities telling them to be "a little tougher" and to "show more firmness" in handling the demonstrations, which the police have so far treated with unexpected restraint. Page 7

Warning on technology

Unless there are radical changes in government and industry attitudes towards research in science and technology, Britain stands no hope against industrial competitors, a Lords committee warns the Government. Page 5

Libyan raid

Libyan MIG aircraft bombed the Chadnian village of Couba Oulanga, shortly after a French air raid on a Libyan base in the north. Page 6

Shares surge

The FT-SE index of top 100 shares surged by 31.5 points to a record 1722.2, adding more than £4 billion to the value of quoted companies. Page 17

Exports drive

The National Economic Development Council agreed that the best opportunities in 20 years now exist for an all-out job-creating exports drive. Page 17

Cricket brawl

England's triumph in the Benson and Hedges cricket challenge final over Pakistan in Perth was marred by 25 arrests after a brawl between Australian and English supporters. Page 34

Portfolio Gold

● The Times Portfolio Gold daily competition prize of £8,000 - double the usual amount because no one won on Tuesday - was shared yesterday by two readers. Details, page 3.

● Portfolio list, page 21; how to play, information service, page 16.

Home News	2-5	Law Report	26
Overseas	6	Leaders	13
Aggr	20	Letters	14
Arts	9	Obituary	14
Births/deaths	15	Press Reports	15
Books	11	Science	15
Business	17-22	Sport	30-32, 34
Cart	34	Theatre	33
Crosswords	10, 16	TV & Radio	33
Diary	10, 12	Weather	16
Features	10, 12	Wills	14

Guinness reacts to DTI

By Lawrence Lever

Guinness, the brewing and leisure group under investigation by the Department of Trade and Industry, last night said it would be holding a full board meeting next Wednesday.

It recognized that a full board meeting must take place at the earliest possible opportunity.

Guinness directors have been locked in a series of meetings this week. According to Guinness, these included meetings with Mr Olivier Roux, the Guinness finance director, and its auditors Price Waterhouse.

Guinness said the directors were taking "urgent steps to

satisfy themselves as to the full implications of what they had learnt."

There was no immediate explanation from the company for the statement specifically highlighting Mr Roux, who signed the cheque for a £7.6 million payment at the heart of a dispute between Guinness and Henry Ansbacher.

The inspectors have interviewed Mr Roux and are expected to interview other principal members of the board shortly.

Mr Roux, along with Mr Ernest Saunders, the Guinness chairman, were two of the five-man war cabinet, which held daily strategy meetings during Guinness's bid for

Schoolboys infected

Two schoolboys in the Bradford area have been infected with the Aids virus as a result of treatment for haemophilia, it was reported yesterday.

The boys were infected more than a year ago after being given a contaminated blood product which had been imported to Britain.

However, neither boy has developed symptoms of Aids. All blood products for haemophiliacs must now be heat-treated as a precaution.

Figures confirm a divided Britain

By Tim Jones

Official Government figures published yesterday support the view that Britain is an economically divided nation with an increasing gap being created between the affluent South and the job-deprived north.

But the Department of Employment says the figures are misleading because there has been a turn-round in employment in every region except Wales since 1983.

Published after a year's delay, the 1984 Employment Census shows that more than a million new jobs had been created since March 1983, but that the effect on unemployment levels was minimal because of the upsurge in the number of people looking for work.

Pay deal agreed in Paris dispute

From Diana Goddes, Paris

A faint glimmer of hope appeared on the troubled French industrial front yesterday when unions representing 40 per cent of Paris public transport workers reached a pay settlement with the management, and M Edouard Balladur, the Finance Minister, announced that negotiations on conditions of service and promotion scales were still possible with the rail-workers.

Meanwhile, however, the longest strike in the history of the French railways goes on, imposing an increasingly intolerable strain on French industry and putting further pressure on the French franc, which again weakened against nearly all major currencies on the foreign exchanges yesterday.

The census recorded a steady and sustained loss of jobs in manufacturing industries, which was partly offset by a boom in service industries such as tourism, finance and leisure pursuits.

Most of this growth has been centred in the South-east.

The figures showed that, of 532,030 redundancies in Britain in 1981, the number in the South-east was 105,878 or just under 20 per cent. In 1985, when the redundancy total nationally was 227,328, the South-east's proportion was down to 15.33 per cent.

The statistics record that more jobs were lost in the North-west in 1985 than in the South-east, where three times as many people are working.

Redundancies, which in 1979 totalled 186,000, leapt to 493,000 in 1980 and peaked at 532,000 in 1981.

Since then, there has been a marked improvement. In 1985, 227,328 people were made redundant, which was almost half the 1979 level.

Last night Mr John Lee, junior minister for employment, said: "We can take some further encouragement from the fact that a third of new jobs created since 1983 have been in the North."

Electricity workers have also voted to continue their crippling strike, which blacked out many parts of the country for up to four hours at a stretch yesterday.

Further disruption is also expected today on the Paris bus and metro systems. The Communist-led CGT and the Socialist CFTD unions have voted to continue their strike, in spite of the settlement reached by other unions representing about 40 per cent of employees.

Hopes for an end to the rail strike, which has already cost the French railways 1.5 billion francs (£160 million) are now pinned on today's meeting of the SNCF statutory committee on conditions of service.

M Balladur indicated that the industrial disputes had already had a damaging effect on the government's policies for economic recovery.

● Miners' cuts: The state-owned coal producer, Charbonnages de France (CDF) has presented unions with a plan to cut its work force by around 60 per cent, or 25,000 over the next five years. (Reuters reports from Paris).

Divided Britain, page 2

Chirac fights, page 6
Sale time, page 12

Police charge prisoner at centre of jail siege

The man whose alleged beating at the hands of prison officers sparked the siege at Barlinnie jail, Glasgow was in court yesterday at the resumed hearing of a civil action.

Samuel Ralston, aged 23, who is serving a six-year sentence for robbery, appeared at Glasgow Sheriff Court. A request for a short adjournment while Ralston had a medical examination was granted.

Ralston was claiming that over £2,000 held by the Procurator Fiscal belongs to him. The claim was contested by a man whose son Ralston was cleared of robbing last year.

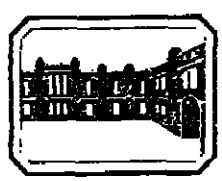
Mr Paul Langan, Ralston's solicitor, said later: "My client has been charged with two assaults on prison officers. As far as claims that he was beaten are concerned, these will require further investigation."

The Scottish Office said Continued on page 16, col 5

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Trethowan named as chairman of Thames TV

By Jonathan Miller, Media Correspondent

A former director-general of the BBC, Sir Ian Trethowan, was yesterday named chairman of Thames Television. He is the first former BBC chief to head a commercial television company.

Sir Ian, aged 64, said yesterday he will work part-time for Thames, concentrating on overall strategy and relations with the Government and Independent Broadcasting Authority. He will continue as chairman of the Horse Race Betting Levy Board and a director of Times Newspapers.

After beginning his career in journalism in 1939 as a 21-a-week office boy on the *Daily Sketch*, Sir Ian worked for the *Yorkshire Post* and *News Chronicle* before becoming deputy editor of *Independent Television News* in 1958.

He joined the BBC in 1963, becoming managing director of radio in 1969 and managing director of television in 1976. He was director-general from 1977-82, leading the corporation through tussles with the Callaghan Government over the licence fee and the Thatcher Government over BBC coverage of the Falklands war.

He joined the Thames board in June, 1986, and succeeds as chairman Mr Hugh Dundas, who has been a director since the company was formed in 1968 and its chairman since 1974.

Sir Ian said he saw no need for major changes at Thames, which last year successfully extended its share ownership through a public flotation and which plans to invest in the Luxembourg television satellite venture. "The direction is fine. What is needed now is to give the management a chance to develop their ideas."

He said he has changed his

view, expressed in an article for *The Times* in 1985, that Channel 4 should be separated from its relationship with the ITV companies. "I can see the arguments, but I have to accept the argument that if there is competition for advertising, this would undermine the central factor in television in this country."

Sir Denis Forman is to retire in March as chairman of Granada Television after a 32-year career with the Manchester-based ITV company. He will continue as deputy chairman of the parent company, Granada Group.

Sir Denis, aged 69, joined Granada Television in 1955 as a programme executive and became chairman in 1974, subsequently playing a leading role in transforming it from a regional broadcaster to a worldwide syndicator of programmes.

He will be succeeded by Granada Television's managing director, Mr David Pownall, who joined the company in 1957 to develop its regional news service and was editor of the current affairs programme, *World in Action*. Mr Andrew Quinn, who joined the company in 1977, will become managing director.

NEWS SUMMARY

Tighter sports curbs on tobacco adverts

A new voluntary agreement between the Government and the Tobacco Industry on sport sponsorship is expected to be announced next week, Mr Dick Tracey, the Minister for Sport, said yesterday.

He said the Government had been involved in months of discussions with cigarette companies, television companies and The Health Education Council to produce new guidelines for restricting advertising at sporting events.

An agreement restricting the size and placing of advertisements at sports events expired at the end of 1985. The Department of Environment said yesterday that the new code agreed with the Tobacco Advisory Council would tighten up existing practices.

Mr Tracey also condemned sporting links with apartheid, but told the North-west Sports Council in West Kirby, Merseyside, that the Government was powerless to stop sports clubs and individuals from visiting South Africa. He said the Government would continue to discourage sporting links with South Africa.

Fishing swopped Publican arrested

The Netherlands and Britain have swapped fishery quotas for herring and plaice so that British fishermen can catch more sole, plaice, cod and other fish in south and south-west waters while the Dutch take British quota fish in the North Sea.

There has been a straight swap of herring quotas so that the Dutch can take more of the fish in the southern area of the North Sea in exchange for increased British fishing opportunities in the northern sector of the North Sea.

Mr Christopher Glass, the publican and part-time fireman whose bar in Maghera, Co Londonderry, was destroyed in an explosion early on December 30, in which Mr Liam McShane, aged 24, a part-time fireman was killed, was arrested at his home early yesterday and detained for questioning by the Royal Ulster Constabulary special branch.

The police would only say that a man had been arrested and was taken to Armagh for questioning about serious crime.

Girls die in fire

Police were investigating last night the cause of a blaze in a terraced house in which a girl, aged three, and her teenage aunt, aged 19, died. Five adults were forced to jump for their lives from bedroom windows.

All five survivors were kept in hospital overnight and treated for shock, bruises and minor lacerations while detectives and fire officers investigated the shell of the house in Ringfield Close, Moss Side, Manchester to try to determine the cause of the blaze.

Tax bout for boxer

The Inland Revenue has started bankruptcy proceedings against Maurice Hope, the former world light-middleweight boxing champion, on a claim for about £59,000.

A receiving order has been made against Mr Hope, now a boxing manager, of Quinta Drive, Arkley, Hertfordshire. If the tax claim is not settled he will face a public examination at London Bankruptcy Court later this year. An application to declare him a bankrupt will be heard later by a registrar in chambers.

Docks air bid agreed

The Civil Aviation Authority approved yesterday the financial package for London's docklands airport put forward by Brynmor Airways (Our Air Correspondent writes).

Brynmor will begin flight tests from the airport, known as Stipport, in June for planned full operation in October. Work on the £21 million project is on schedule.

The CAA received applications from a number of airlines, of which Brynmor, Eurocity (a subsidiary of British Midland) and British Air Ferries are the main contenders for licences. They had been concerned that all three produced a detailed financial breakdown of their operations before agreeing to look into their bids.

Pit strike 'poker' for Sir Ian

Sir Ian MacGregor, former National Coal Board chairman, says in a television interview to be broadcast tonight that he regarded the year-long pit strike as a poker game.

"One of my problems was that I had a number of associates who had never been in a poker game before," Sir Ian, who also accuses Mrs Margaret Thatcher's Cabinet advisors of being "weak-kneed", says.

"In a negotiation of that type, on which enormous stakes are at issue, one of the things is a lot of people start to get cold feet, they don't understand the game."

In his first lengthy television interview since leaving the coal board, now British Coal, Sir Ian described Mr Arthur Scargill, National Union of Mineworkers president, as "a very dangerous demagogue". He says that Mr Bill Sims, the moderate steel union leader, who has retired, "almost destroyed the industry" and workers' prospects when he led a three-month strike.

Although he insists that Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, is not one of the "enemies within" described in his book, Sir Ian says that the minister made a settlement of the coal strike "a little harder to achieve".

He says: "Mr Walker and I had different chemistries and... problems in seeing eye to eye on everything."

Sir Ian accuses some Cabinet members of lacking "intestinal fortitude" in the battle against Nacods, the pit deputies' union. He says he encountered some of his toughest opposition from within the Cabinet.

However, he says of Mrs Thatcher: "Of all our politicians, she best understands the fundamental of the British economy and probably has done more for it than any person in this century."

£26m fine for illegal milk price

The EEC Commission announced yesterday that the Milk Marketing Board would be fined £26 million for illegal pricing practices. It would take the form of reduced farm support payments to the United Kingdom next month.

In December the European Court of Justice in Luxembourg ruled that the board had acted illegally between 1978 and 1984 under EEC law by operating a two-tier price system, selling milk at cheap rates to British butter producers to enable them to undercut.

● The Government's public expenditure on agriculture is 15 times greater, in real terms, than its contribution to the manufacturing industry, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury has told farmers.

at the Oxford Farming Conference, Mr John MacGregor predicted that the total expenditure on agricultural support would reach £2,289 million for the 1986-1987.

The Artisans and Labourers

TUC faces split over Moscow mission

By Tim Jones

A successful Communist-backed move to send a TUC delegation to a congress of Soviet trade unions in Moscow is threatening to split the British group's General Council.

The decision, taken against the advice of Mr Norman Willis, the TUC general secretary, could also embarrass Mr Neil Kinnock and the Labour Party in the run-up to a possible election.

If the decision is endorsed by the general council when it meets later this month, it will

be the first time since the post war period that the TUC will have sanctioned official meetings with its Soviet counterparts.

The TUC has not sent a delegation to the congress since unions in the West broke with the Communist-led World Federation of Trade Unions and set up their own group, the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions.

Mr Ken Gill, general secretary of the hard left union TASS, the white-collar section of the engineering union, who

was expelled from the British Communist Party for being too pro-Soviet, was one of the committee members who argued strongly in favour of the trip.

He was supported by Mr Ron Todd, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union.

The decision, by nine votes to two, to send a delegation to the congress of the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions, was bitterly condemned by Mr Eric Hammond, general secretary of the electricians' union. He said:

"There are no free trade unions in the Soviet Union. A TUC presence on their congress platform will simply be used to give credibility to a puppet organization." Mr Bill Jordan, president of the engineering union, will try to have the decision reversed when it is discussed by the General Council.

In spite of advice from Mr Willis that the TUC should not rush into acceptance, the majority of committee members thought there was nothing to lose by attempting to improve relations

Some members said if it was correct for President Reagan to meet Mr Gorbachev, then it was right for the TUC to try to play a role in lessening tension between the two power blocks.

The trade union movement was embarrassed some years ago when Mr Alex Kinnock, then a deputy general secretary of the transport union, visited Moscow during the sixtieth anniversary celebrations of the Bolshevik Revolution and ended a speech in favour of the Soviet system by declaring, "Long live the October Revolution".

Ford stays top in record year

By Daniel Ward
Motor Industry Correspondent

A record 1.88 million new cars were sold in Britain last year and Ford pushed home its advantage over Austin Rover and Vauxhall, with Escort, Fiesta and Sierra heading the best-selling league.

The Ford Escort was the best-selling car for the fifth year running, accounting for more than 8 per cent of the market.

After four difficult years for the Ford Sierra, the successor to the Cortina, it tipped the Vauxhall Cavalier to third position by just 386 cars.

Sales of 293,240 kept Austin Rover in second place, marginally ahead of Vauxhall, but both car-makers had a disappointing year and are now under considerable pressure to pull back some of Ford's improved 27.4 per cent market share.

Austin Rover sales slipped badly from almost 18 per cent in 1985 to 15.6 per cent last year. Ford could afford aggressive support for the Sierra, from free sunroofs to low-cost finance on top of normal incentives, and against the Montego continued to fare badly: in seventh place, it was outsold by Sierra and Cavalier almost two to one.

Vauxhall's target of an 18 per cent market share was badly wrong as its sales slipped from 303,475 to 284,517; it finished with a 15.1 per cent share. After taking over the mantle of best fleet car from the Ford Cortina, Cavalier lost to the Sierra and sales slumped 16 per cent.

In the increasingly important medium-sized saloon market dominated by Ford Orion and Rover 200, Vauxhall expected to sell 40,000 Belmonts but sales reached barely half the target.

The British-built Peugeot 309 just scraped into the top 20 sellers. Helped by the improving 205 model, the company share rose to 4.6 per cent last year.

Total imports fell from 58.1 to 55.97 per cent, due largely to Ford and Vauxhall selling more British-built models. Nissan pipped Audi/VW to the top importer position by 37 registrations.

Mr Peter Cover, sales and marketing director for Audi/VW, said: "The early signs are that manufacturers will go for customer benefits like low cost financing and we would all hope it won't go back to the levels of discounting of 1984/5."

The Japanese and the German luxury car makers are predicting steep price rises in 1987 to compensate for currency fluctuations.

● The Truck of the Year award has been won by the German heavy truck builder MAN, for the third time, its new F90 truck winning from Mercedes by a clear margin.

AB Cranes, which used to provide several hundred jobs, has closed and the empty shell of its huge factory overlooks the Severn Gorge where the first iron bridge was built more than 200 years ago. It still stands across the river.

GKN Sankey has cut its workforce from more than 7,000 to less than 2,000.

Nearer the prosperous-looking town centre, however, Tatung, the Taiwanese company, employs 1,000 people making televisions and computers in a plush new factory. From Japan, Ricoh, the photocopy company, and Maxell, which produces video

Van parked in airliner's path

An Olympic Airways ground engineer was fined £300 after he was found guilty yesterday at Uxbridge Magistrates' Court, of endangering an aircraft at Heathrow Airport on May 28 last year.

Costas Gavrilakis parked his van as an Olympic airliner was moving into position and the aircraft was in collision with the van at almost zero speed.

Council housing

'Homes for artisans' started by Victorians

By Christopher Warman
Property Correspondent

Council housing had its origins a century ago and until 1949 concentrated on housing the "working classes", which almost certainly gave it the stigma it has never totally lost.

The need for public housing emerged in the second half of the nineteenth century as a result of increasing awareness of the appalling conditions in many parts of the country.

In 1851 the Labouring Classes Lodging Houses Act and the Common Lodging Houses Act (the Shaftesbury Acts) were passed, giving power to local authorities to build lodging houses, including lodging accommodation suitable for the labouring classes.

Few houses were built, however, and by 1914 it is estimated that 90 per cent of Britain's housing was privately rented and 10 per cent owner-occupied, leaving a



Two hooded prisoners staging a rooftop demonstration yesterday at Barlinnie Prison in Glasgow, where 16 prisoners were still taking part in a protest which began on Monday night over alleged brutality. They are holding three prison officers

Divided Britain

Recession ravages new town

By Craig Seton

Telford New Town has the highest rate of unemployment in the West Midlands, the region said to have suffered the greatest single net loss of jobs since the Conservatives came to power in 1979.

The irony that Telford should be such an apparent centre of industrial decline in an area which launched the industrial revolution more than two centuries ago — creating millions of jobs for working people — is not lost on those attempting to combat the ravages of the recession.

Unemployment in the Telford and Bridgnorth travel-to-work area is 19.2 per cent — greater than the national average and higher than any of the Black Country towns to the east — but last year it had a net gain of more than 3,000 new jobs and many believe that the tide of recession has at last turned.

Telford's hoped-for second industrial revolution is based not on the heavy "metal-bashing" industries on which past prosperity depended, but new, high-tech industries which depend to a large extent on foreign investment, especially from the United States, Japan, and the Far East generally.

A recent survey showed that US investment has created 1,000 jobs in the new town, Taiwan 1,000, France 690, Japan 400, West Germany 390, and oil-rich Kuwait 120.

The signs of the industrial decline in the new town — based around smaller, old-established communities, are to be seen everywhere.

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In the week government figures demonstrated the ever-widening prosperity gap between the north and south of Britain, *The Times* visited two towns, Telford in the West Midlands, where unemployment is high, and Ipswich in East Anglia, where the borough council receives 80 inquiries a month from companies interested in moving there.

tapes, are also established.

Mr David Everington, chief spokesman for the Telford Development Corporation, said: "You cannot look at us in terms of the North-South divide, but it is very much a town of two societies. The 80 per cent of those in work are doing very well compared with those who do not have jobs."

The crowded shops of the modern Telford shopping centre belie the depressing statistics that show more than 11,500 people out of work and that 60 per cent of children are entitled to free school meals. More than one third of the corporation's tenants owe rent, arrears total more than £250,000.

It is away from the town centre on the huge housing estates such as that at Madeley — one of the old-established communities — where the divisions are most apparent.

One resident, Glyn Smith, aged 21, has been unemployed for more than two years.

He lives in a corporation house with his girl friend, Jane, and their son, Dean, aged four months, receiving £55 in supplementary benefit each week. Their rent is paid by social security.

Mr Smith, a welder, lost his job in a small local factory. "I just say to myself I will get work if there is any going, and if there is not, then there is not much I can do about it. I do not know about the North-

South divide. This is where I was brought up and I would not really think about going south to find work unless I really had to."

Mr Rob Breeze, aged 31, coordinator at the Madeley People's Centre, which caters for the unemployed, said the housing estate was plagued by vandalism and drug addiction was a growing problem.

"The 19 per cent unemployment figure is actually very misleading. The figure includes the rural areas near by and Bridgnorth, which does much better than Telford, and I can think of four or five council wards where unemployment is over 40 per cent."

Much of the inducement offered to companies to relocate or set up in Telford is based on the new town's enterprise zone, which offers exemption from general rates on industrial and commercial property until 1994, exemption from development land tax.

Mr Woodward said: "While most of the economic indicators show few signs of recovery the commercial property market in Ipswich is certainly booming."

There are several reasons for Ipswich's prosperity. It is situated on the River Orwell, ten miles from the river opening, and recent extensions to the port reflect the increase in overseas trade membership of the EEC has brought to the South-east. In addition Ipswich has excellent road and rail links with England's major city centres.

"Ipswich used to be regarded as out in the sticks," says Woodward, manager of the commercial department of Ipswich property firm Oxburrows, "the area is expanding enormously. We're well blessed with strong representations from national insurance companies."

General Accident and Commercial Union and the Guardian Royal Exchange have recently established bases, with the Sun Life to follow.

Mr Woodward said: "While most of the economic indicators show few signs of recovery the commercial property market in Ipswich is certainly booming."

Further up the street you are confronted with the insurance company Willis, Faber's out-of-London headquarters designed by Foster Associates. It is a large elliptical building surrounded by reflective black glass.

"From a commercial point of view," says George Woodward, manager of the

commercial department of Ipswich property firm Oxburrows, "the area is expanding enormously. We're well blessed with strong representations from national insurance companies."

General Accident and Commercial Union and the Guardian Royal Exchange have recently established bases, with the Sun Life to follow.

Mr Woodward said: "While most of the economic indicators show few signs of recovery the commercial property market in Ipswich is certainly booming."

There are several reasons for Ipswich's prosperity. It is situated on the River Orwell, ten miles from the river opening, and recent extensions to the port reflect the increase in overseas trade membership of the EEC has brought to the South-east. In addition Ipswich has excellent road and rail links with England's major city centres.

"Ipswich used to be regarded as out in the sticks," says Woodward, manager of the

Meacher provokes onslaught by Tories

By Nicholas Wood
Political Reporter

Senior Conservatives yesterday strongly criticized Mr Michael Meacher, Labour's health spokesman, over his allegations that the Government has connived at subordinating British interests to the United States.

Mr Michael Heseltine, the former Secretary of State for Defence, spoke of his "absolute despair" at the Shadow Cabinet member's inability to appreciate the indivisibility of the two countries' security — a point that had been accepted by every government since the Second World War.

"The Americans are here at our invitation and would go home tomorrow if asked to do so. Our peace and security are wholly inseparable. But the British people are not going to fall for this stuff," Mr Heseltine said.

Sir Eldon Griffiths, whose Bury St Edmunds constituency embraces RAF and US Air Force bases, accused the Labour politician of drumming up a hate campaign against "our best and strongest ally".

And Mr Michael Mates, chairman of the all-party defence select committee, said Mr Meacher was guilty of "dangerous irresponsibility" in creating a "scare story" out of perfectly sensible disaster planning.

The criticisms came after Mr Meacher's new year message to his Oldham West constituents in which he claimed that the massive encroachment by America on the right of British people to run their own affairs was the most important issue at the coming election.

He backed up his attack by claiming that the CIA had placed agents at the Ministry of Defence whose real job was to spy on British companies.

And he said that the Government had secretly laid the foundations for handing over, in the face of possible nuclear attack, large areas of Britain to control by US forces.

His intervention, coinciding with efforts by Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, to switch the focus of political debate away from defence and towards the economy, caused evident irritation among his colleagues.

Mr Heseltine said: "What is so awful about Meacher's statement is that it reveals Labour's underlying hostility to the leading power in the free world and our most important ally."

What is so depressing about it is that it shows how divorced it is from reality. In conversations in the Shadow Cabinet must be."

Red Arrow pilot has to quit

By Harvey Elliott
Air Correspondent

A young officer is considering what his future might be in the RAF after being dismissed from the Red Arrows aerobatic team after a crash.

Flt Lt Dan Findlay, aged 30, escaped safely when he had a major problem with his engine as he was practising the precision "synchro pair" manoeuvre near the Red Arrows base at Scampton in Lincolnshire. He decided to eject and the Hawk trainer he was flying crashed into a field.

After he had recovered in hospital, Flt Lt Findlay was suspended from duty while an interim report was prepared on the crash. This was then sent to Air Marshall Sir John Sutton, head of RAF Support Command, who decided that the pilot had failed to carry out proper procedures for handling the emergency and therefore should be relieved of his post.

A Support Command spokesman said: "If you have an accident it can damage confidence and the Red Arrows cannot afford to have anyone who is not 100 per cent."

Although Flt Lt Findlay can now apply for another flying job, he is considering leaving the RAF altogether.

Hare's rescue 'obstructed by police'

An animal lover claims that police stopped her rescuing a hare by grabbing her arms while a huntsman snatched the animal from her.

Mrs Sadie Turner, who works for an RSPCA animal rescue centre in Cobham, Surrey, has written to Aldershot police complaining about two officers, and the League Against Cruel Sports is planning to bring a prosecution for cruelty against the huntsman.

Mrs Turner picked up an exhausted hare as hounds from the Aldershot Beagles closed in during a hunt through Otford.

She said yesterday: "Two policemen grabbed me. At that moment the huntsman saw the hare's legs hanging below my jacket and snatched it away."

Schools chief resigns amid exams row

Mr Michael O'Reilly, education director for Newcastle upon Tyne, resigned yesterday amid growing concern about poor examination results achieved in the city's secondary schools.

Although the Labour-run authority spent more than any other education department in the North, Newcastle's secondary school pupils came bottom of the league for O-level results in figures compiled by the Department of Education and Science.

On the same day that the statistics were released, Mr O'Reilly told the council that he wanted to resign. He has been suffering from heart trouble in recent months.

Crossroads

Four out of five nurses are attacked, survey shows

By Jill Sherman

Four out of five nurses in a sample survey have been victims of violent attacks over the past 12 months, almost half of them on more than one occasion.

The survey, which is published today, confirms growing fears in the profession of the high incidence of violence against nursing staff.

It showed that of 459 questionnaires returned, 78 per cent reported a violent attack within the past year and 48 per cent of respondents said they had been subjected to physical violence.

Twenty nurses said they were sexually abused and others were victims of oral abuse and threatening behaviour.

Most victims felt they did not receive adequate protection from their employers, citing a lack of security measures such as panic buttons, night lights in grounds and absence of 24-hour security personnel.

Thirty-five per cent of health districts have a policy for dealing with violent incidents, but only half of them provide staff with training on handling violence.

The study, undertaken before Christmas by the Nursing Standard, the Royal College of Nursing newspaper, shows that more than 85 per cent of attacks occurred on hospital premises. Accident and emergency departments and general and psychiatric wards were commonly mentioned.

In nearly half the cases, the attack caused personal injury and in 25 per cent, damage to the employer's property.

Attacks involved scratching, punching, biting although some nurses reported more serious assaults resulting in broken limbs and permanent back problems.

In one incident, a pregnant nurse was attacked by a female patient and punched and kicked in the abdomen; in another case, an irate patient attempted to strangle the nurse.

But the study disclosed that male nurses were more likely to be subject to violence than females, particularly in inner city areas.

While 77 per cent of female staff in inner city hospitals said they had been victims of violence, 96 per cent of the male respondents claimed they had been attacked.

Most assaults on either sex took place in inner cities and in most cases the assailants were male, normally a patient or patient's relatives or friend.

The assailant was prosecuted in only 6 per cent of cases. Nurses said alcohol abuse contributed to the attack, and in 53 per cent the assault was linked with mental illness.

One out of every five nurses did not report the incident.

Yesterday the Royal College of Nursing called on all health authorities to provide self defence courses and counselling for all nursing staff.

The results, although only from a small sample, confirm that violence is on the increase, the RCN said.

"Health authorities should now be providing personal alarms and running training courses," in the four self defence courses which the RCN has run, most of the staff said that the main problem was the lack of confidence when faced with an attacker, the RCN said.

Many respondents to the questionnaire said that they needed far more support from nursing managers both in preventing violent situations and after the incident had occurred.

Tough jail terms for poison threats

By Frances Gibb
Legal Affairs Correspondent

Threats to poison food products could result in up to 10 years imprisonment under a new law which comes into force this week.

Scotland Yard has reported that the number of cases involving such threats has doubled in the past year. The sums demanded range from £1,500 to £500,000.

An article in this week's *Law Society Gazette* says that threats of food contamination can have "devastating repercussions" for manufacturers.

In the United States, nine people died after a headache remedy, Tylenol Extra Strength, was poisoned with cyanide. The resultant litigation cost the company more than £300 million.

In Britain, sales of Mars Bars slumped in 1984 after a man claiming to be an animal rights activist threatened to poison the company's sweets with botulinum. The threat turned out to be a hoax and the man was caught by the police as he attempted to collect a ransom.

The Japanese sweet industry has practically collapsed after a two-year campaign by a gang of extortionists which has laced sweets on sale in supermarkets with cyanide.

The article, by Mrs Shane Watson, a law lecturer at Leicester Polytechnic, says research has shown that most people fail to notice if a package has been tampered with, or if someone is openly tampering with food products.

Mrs Watson calls for the introduction of tamper-resistant containers, which are now required for all drugs sold in the US.

Section 38 of the Public Order Act will make it an offence, punishable by jail, a fine, or both, for a person to tamper with goods to cause public alarm or anxiety, stop consumer use or cause economic loss, and to place such contaminated goods where they can be sold or used. It will also be an offence to threaten such action.



Suzannah Reast, aged 12, enjoys a peaceful moment (Photograph: Chris Harris).

Calm and chaos at Harrods

By Robin Young

About 250,000 competitors descended on Knightsbridge yesterday for the consumer society's annual championship sweepstakes - Harrods' winter sale.

Yet amid the raging storm of frantic bargain-hunters certain isolated pockets of calm remained above the chaos that accompanies the most stressful, frantic and acquisitive event in the shoppers' calendar.

On sale day the thundering herds arrive to disperse nearly £7 million at 705 tills staffed by 6,000 assistants.

One wealthy matron made it to the 18-Plus department (large ladies' fashions - vast reductions) in 32 seconds flat. Little more than half an hour later, completely surrounded by shopping bags, she was celebrating her success tucking into a Danish open sandwich (£1.25) and fresh cream gâteau (£1.05) in the adjacent Dress Circle restaurant, with no further reductions in view.

Up in a corner of garden furniture (highly unseasonal, only 10 per cent off, and so scantily visited) a family was settled into a picnic by 10.30am.

Down in the food halls almost all counters at that time were serving customers with no delay, where on usual shopping days they would have had long queues.

Another peaceful haven was the pet shop (scratching posts, 10 per cent off), where access is restricted to avoid frightening the animals. Three staff were giving a sulphur-crested cockatoo a fly-about in a complete absence of customers.

Undeniably you rub shoulders with a good class of person at Harrods. The man in front of me in the wine department was the Prince of Wales's father-in-law, Lord Spencer, discreetly laying in four cases of tawny port (£5.80 a bottle down from £6.85) and three of amontillado sherry (£3.65 a bottle instead of £4.30).

I repaired to the peaceful section of the men's hair-dressing salon, where 17 staff had just four customers among them.

"It's a good time to come, sir," Mr Webster, who gave me my trim, said. "All our regular customers give the store rather a wide berth at sale time."

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Murdered girl 'had affair with accused'

By a Staff Reporter

The mother of a young man accused of murder told the Central Criminal Court yesterday that her son said he was having an affair with the girl he allegedly sexually assaulted and then strangled.

Mrs Carol Taken, a bus conductor with London Transport, said her son, Colin, disclosed this while he was awaiting trial for the murder of Tessa Howden, aged 19, who was killed in her bedroom while her parents slept near by.

He claimed that on the night Tessa was murdered, she had let him into her house through a back door.

"Gary said he had thrown stones up at her window and she let him in," Mrs Taken said.

"They talked in the kitchen for a while, then went up to Tessa's bedroom and made love."

"He said he heard somebody moving around the house and left through the window. He said Tessa was all right when he left."

Mrs Taken said her son said that he and Tessa had sexual intercourse at her home on several occasions after meeting two months previously. But he had not met her parents.

Earlier Mr Taken had admitted in court that he entered the girl's home to have sexual intercourse with her.

After a delay of almost two hours in starting the third day of the trial, Mr Allan Green, for the prosecution, closed his case by reading an admission, agreed by the defence, to the jury.

The admission conceded that on January 10 last year, Mr Taken had entered the girl's home at Foxearth Spur, Selsdon, Surrey, "with the intention of having sexual intercourse with Tessa Howden".

Mr Taken, aged 20, who lived with his parents a quarter mile away at Heather Way, Selsdon, denies murdering Tessa Howden in the early hours of January 10.

She was sexually assaulted, strangled with her thighs and her throat slashed with a sharp instrument, Mr Taken's prints were found all round the bedroom in her blood, the prosecution has told the court.

When the court assembled yesterday, Mr Ian Goldsborough, for the defence, said that he did not intend to call Mr Taken to give evidence.

The trial continues today.

Portfolio Gold - Oil world influence pays off

A legal adviser to Mr J Paul Getty, the late oil millionaire, and a newly-married man shared yesterday's Portfolio Gold prize of £2,000.

Miss Robina Lund, true to her training under the world's richest man, said she had acquired a lasting interest in the oil market and would invest her £4,000 prize in stocks and shares.

"My stock market investments have usually proved quite sound, but then it's not like gambling. The odds are much better and I only go into businesses I know about," Miss Lund, of west London, a reader of *The Times* for 30 years, said.

The other prize winner, Mr Edmund Gardiner, of Glasgow, intends putting his £4,000 Portfolio Gold prize towards a deposit on the house he and his wife hope to buy.

"It's a nice way to start the year and it's just what we needed as a start to getting our own home," Mr Gardiner, a trainee civil engineer, said.

Portfolio Gold cards can be obtained by sending a stamped, addressed envelope to:

Portfolio Gold
The Times
PO Box 40
Blackburn
BB1 6AJ.



Mr Edmund Gardiner, deposit on a home.

Lawyer seeks witness in killing of girls

The solicitor representing a man accused of murdering two Brighton schoolgirls appealed yesterday for a witness he believes could help identify the killer.

Mr Ralph Haecms told Brighton magistrates that a young person had made three "highly relevant" telephone calls to his London office, but had not given a full name and address.

He appealed for the caller to make contact again.

Russell Bishop, aged 20, an unemployed builder, of Stephens Road, Brighton, was remanded in custody for another week. Reporting restrictions have been lifted.

Mr Bishop is charged with the murders of Nicola Fellows and Karen Hadaway, both aged nine, who were found sexually assaulted and strangled in Wild Park, Brighton, last October.

Mr Haecms told the court that the calls were from the Brighton area. The person sounded terrified and would give only a first name.

Brixton shooting Jury tests trigger pressure

By Michael McCarthy

The jury in the Brixton shooting trial was yesterday handed the gun that fired the shot and invited to pull the trigger.

In a dramatic moment at the Central Criminal Court, each of the six men and six women tested the empty police-issue .38 Smith and Wesson revolver for its two trigger "pull-pressures", one when the weapon was cocked, and when it was not.

Insp Douglas Lovelock, aged 42, a policeman for 22

years, has pleaded not guilty to unlawfully and maliciously wounding Mrs Dorothy "Cherry" Groce in a raid on her house in Normandy Road, Brixton, south London, when in pursuit of her son, Michael, who was wanted for firearms offences.

Mr Lovelock shot Mrs Groce on entering her home and she has been left permanently paralysed in a wheelchair. The incident, in September 1985, later led to rioting in the Brixton area.

The court was told again yesterday that the inspector told an investigating officer the shooting was an accident caused by him "tensing" with his finger on the trigger.

Mr Richard du Cann, QC, for the prosecution, questioned the Home Office forensic scientist, Mr Graham Renshaw, about the two different pressures needed to pull the Smith and Wesson trigger.

Mr Renshaw said that to pull the trigger when the weapon was cocked required only a single action, with a pressure of 2lb 15oz; but to pull it when it was uncocked required a double action, with a pressure of 9lb 4oz.

The judge, Mr Justice Leonard, tried it for himself, pulling the trigger of the gun both cocked and uncocked, and then invited the jury to follow suit. The loud clicks rang out in the courtroom as the gun was passed from hand to hand.

The jury was told later that Mr Lovelock had entered Mrs Groce's house with the gun uncocked.

Questioned by Mr Anthony Hidden, QC, for the defence, Professor of Forensic Medicine at London University, agreed that when the human body was under stress, muscles could themselves undergo physical tension and contract.

"It is the brain putting the body on physical alert," he said. "The mental process is affecting the physical process. The muscle fibre groups are under stress and may be under a certain type of contraction."

That was the case when a person was permitting himself to show the tension, he said, but where someone was trying to keep it hidden the effect might be even greater.

"I would agree that with a person trying for a situation where stress was not to be obvious, the muscles might become even more tense," he said.

The trial continues today when legal argument is expected in the absence of the jury, at the close of the prosecution case.

Soccer fan needed 100 stitches after attack

A football supporter yesterday told how he needed more than 100 stitches after a savage attack by a gang of Chelsea fans.

Michael Stretton, a miner, told Inner London Crown Court in south London that he was kicked in the face and viciously slashed when 50 thugs attacked him.

The gang of 50, who were not wearing football colours, attacked him as he waited for a bus.

"My mouth was bleeding

and then I noticed I had a cut in my jumper. I held my sleeve up and realized I had a gash in my left arm."

Mr Stretton, aged 36, of Wark Avenue, Shiremoor, north Tyneside, needed more than 100 stitches for the gash, which had severed tendons and muscles, and another cut.

Yesterday, other witnesses told the jury how they were attacked after the same match. The court has been told that a gang attacked rival supporters in carefully planned ambushes.

Terence Last, one of the people arrested after the Newcastle attack on November 10, 1984, was allegedly a ring-leader of the Chelsea gang, which regularly organized violence around team matches.

Mr Last denies being involved and claimed he was walking to the station after watching the match.

He and eight others deny conspiring to cause affrays between January 1980 and March 1986.

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Advice on timeshare hustling

People who attend timeshare presentations should never go alone, sign anything on the spot, or pay any money at the first meeting, according to this month's *Which?* magazine.

Which? sent volunteers to presentations by Holiday Ownership Exchange, of Leicester Square, and Allen House, of Kensington High Street. It reports that the volunteers were subjected to high-pressure selling techniques, and found they were given scanty information and no time to consider the deal.

They were encouraged to sign on the spot by the offer of a "first day" discount of more than £1,000, or told they could not go away or consult a solicitor before signing. One volunteer described the presentation as "psychological warfare".

Which? says that potential purchasers should always get expert advice on any contract they are offered.

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'Dubious' tests for allergies

By a Staff Reporter

Commercial allergy-testing clinics often give dubious and risky dietary advice on the basis of inaccurate and unreliable tests, according to this month's *Which?*, published by the Consumers' Association.

Which? in conjunction with Guy's Hospital in south London, sent samples of blood and hair from 18 volunteers to five clinics, with each clinic getting two samples from every volunteer but under different names.

The clinics, which charged from £8 to £80 for the tests, failed to identify fish allergies in patients known to have them, and most clinics' tests showed a large number of conflicting results from samples taken from the same person.

There were 90 samples from volunteers with no known food allergies, but only 13 replies came back saying "no food allergies", all but one, coming from the same clinic.

On average, the clinics diagnosed 15 food allergies for each sample. The record for one sample from one clinic was 73.

One volunteer was diagnosed by the five clinics as being allergic to more than 100 food types.

Most clinics advised avoiding specific foods for periods from six weeks to three months, and made no mention of consulting a doctor or dietitian before embarking on drastic diet changes.

Which? says that it would have been putting the volunteers' health at risk to ask them to follow some of the advice they were offered.

The magazine calls for the introduction of controls over clinics.

'Crossroads' reaches a turning point

By Gavin Bell, Arts Correspondent

Crossroads, the ITV soap opera, has reached a turning point under its new producer, Mr Bill Smethurst.

A new team of scriptwriters and actors has been recruited to revitalize the 22-year-old programme, which attracts about nine million viewers an episode, with more humour and a stronger regional identity.

Several familiar faces at the Midlands motel have already departed, and more are to leave in the next few months.

Mr Smethurst, former producer of the BBC radio serial,

The Archers, said yesterday: "Viewers who watch *Eastenders* and *Coronation Street* can identify with the places where they are set. I thought that *Crossroads* couldn't really be pinned down to any area, so we are going to give it a real Midlands flavour."

He said: "We like to write social comedy about real life, and that is what we will be doing. I also want to see a lighter approach, and more humour, in the script."

Regular stars such as Paul Henny, who plays Beau,

Tony Adams, who plays Adam Chance, and Jane Rossington, who plays her screen wife, Jill, will remain. However Gabrielle Drake, who plays Nicola Freeman, the motel manager, is leaving the cast next week to appear in a stage play, and it is not known if she will return.

Other cast members to depart are Martin Smith, who plays Mickey Doyle, the health club attendant; Harry Mann, who plays barman Barry Hart; Pamela Vezey, who plays Kathy Fellows; and Dorothy Brown, who plays Lorraine Baker.

The new cast will include Terence Rigby, formerly of the National Theatre, as the new motel owner, and Frances Cuka, of the Royal Shakespeare Company, as his wife.

Graham Seed, formerly of *The Archers*, will become assistant manager of the motel. Ann George returns after 12 years to play Amy Turtle.

As part of the shake-up, the second and third episodes of each week will be screened at the same time on Wednesdays and Thursdays throughout the ITV network.

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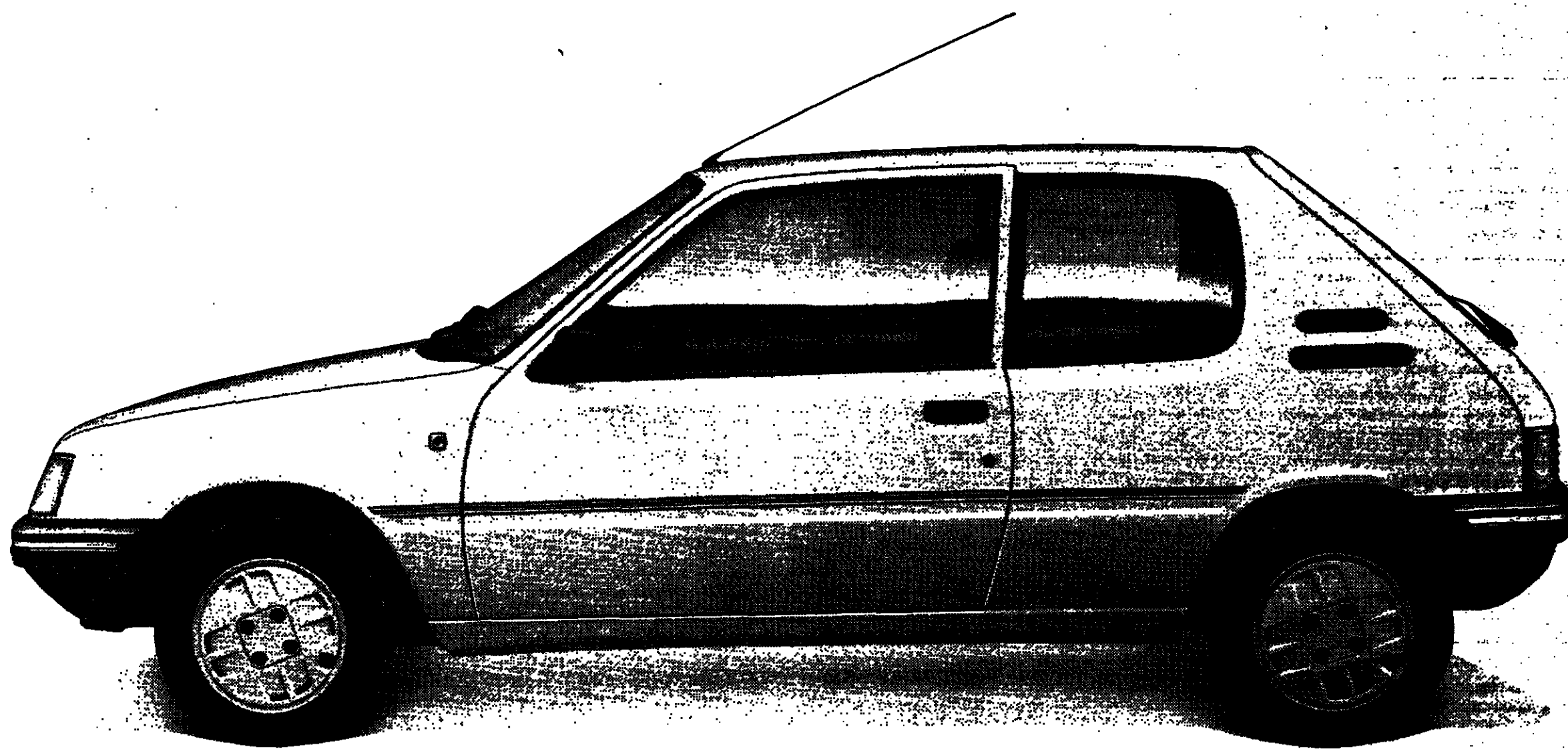
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REPAYMENT PERIOD	12 MTHS	24 MTHS	36 MTHS
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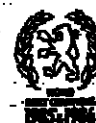
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Peers seek radical action to save crumbling sciences

By Sheila Goss, Political Staff

A top-level committee of peers gives a warning today that Britain is facing its last chance to save its crumbling science base.

Unless there are radical, urgent changes in government and industry attitudes to research in science and technology, Britain stands no hope against industrial competitors. Those must be backed by more public money, new leadership to reverse the decline and the appointment of a cabinet minister for science.

The Lords' science and technology select committee report, published today, is the result of the most thorough inquiry in recent years into the state of British science, hearing 183 witnesses from the scientific community, industry, government departments and universities.

It supports previous studies which have criticised the Government's lack of support for basic research and lack of action over the brain drain of Britain's best scientists.

It will carry considerable weight with the Government because of the experience of the committee members from all parties. The Government will reply later this year and it will be debated in the House of Lords on February 19.

The report concludes that morale in the scientific community is at an all-time low, with industrialists pessimistic about the future.

"The committee's inquiry has disclosed the gravity of the UK's prospects in R & D. To remedy this the committee has recommended a high profile for science and technology, dynamic leadership at the

centre and a new approach to funding R & D.

"These all matter greatly. But what matters most is the determination of both the public and the private sectors to create new confidence and to restore the UK's prosperity and its international position in science and in industry."

It adds: "The overall picture conveys an impression of turmoil and frustration."

The peers found that universities held back from breaking new ground or pursuing students because of budget cuts and stagnant recruitment. Many professors complained about the accelerating brain drain among the best graduates.

Investment by government and industry in research was poor compared with Britain's competitors, with the additional handicap of a higher proportion going into defence rather than civil research.

"The country needs a fresh start and the optimism to make its talents work," the report states. "The key issue is one of attitudes: the determination to make the UK industrially successful, combined with new hope for those engaged in science and technology."

"Cosmetic adjustments to the status quo will not be enough. The Government had to show that it means business and create a new climate of optimism."

Its recommendations include:

- A science minister in the Cabinet;
- A Council of Science and Technology, chaired by the Prime Minister, to oversee the

whole of scientific and technological endeavour. That would absorb the the Advisory Council for Applied Research and Development;

● New government money for research in exploitable areas of science;

● A 10 per cent surcharge on all government contracts for commissioned research;

● Legislation to require companies to disclose research and development spending;

● Government money to help develop new products essential to meet subsidized foreign competition;

● More tax incentives for industry to conduct research.

Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science, told the committee that he was against the minister for science proposal.

Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, hoped that companies voluntarily disclosed research spending but did not rule out legislation.

He described government help for companies as reasonably comparable with other European countries. But witnesses from industry disagreed. The Electronic Components Industry Federation said that in 1984 support for investment in micro-electronics was 40 per cent of that given by the German government and barely a fifth of the French government support.

House of Lords Select Committee on Science and Technology: Civil Research and Development (Stationery Office, vol 1, report, £6; Vol 2, oral evidence, £20.80).

Tory MP nearly jailed for drink-drive offence

Thomas Arnold, a vice-chairman of the Conservative Party, was told he came near to receiving a prison sentence after admitting driving with an alcohol breath level of more than three times the legal limit in Trafalgar Square, London, on December 2.

Arnold, aged 39, MP for Hazel Grove, Manchester, of Sutherland Street, Westminster, was told by Mr William Robins, the magistrate at Bow Street court, yesterday that the effect a prison sentence would have on his career was one factor influencing a sentence of £400, with £40 costs and disqualification from driving for two and a half years.

Mr Richard Tyrrell, for the prosecution, said police first noticed Arnold in St Martin's Lane. He was taken to a police station where a breath test showed 114 micrograms of alcohol per 100 millilitres of breath.

Bournemouth bomb hoaxer sent to jail

A policeman who was on duty at a checkpoint during the Conservative Party conference in Bournemouth last October yesterday told a jury he heard a car screaming towards him and the words "attack, attack" shouted over his radio.

PC David Priddle told the court he picked up a wooden fence post and "as the vehicle approached me at speed, I threw the fence post through the front nearside passenger window, which was open."

The vehicle stopped and police seized MacDonald Liddall, aged 29, who was yesterday jailed for a total of three and a half years after being found guilty of two

bomb hoax charges and reckless driving.

PC Priddle, aged 24, had been on duty near the Highbury hotel, where Liddall believed Mrs Thatcher was staying. He was told by Judge Kenneth Smithies, at Bournemouth Crown Court, that he deserved the "highest commendation."

The court was told that Liddall, of Lower Parkstone, Poole, Dorset, placed a bag containing telephone directories and a clock outside the Royal Bath hotel, and a similar package outside the conference venue.

He was said to have been making "a political point" after being out of work for seven years.

Threat to MPs who oppose hanging

By John Winder

An organization which seeks the return of capital and corporal punishment is trying to oust key MPs opposed to its policy, in favour of members who will vote "according to constituents' wishes" on hanging and flogging.

The Campaign for the Return of Capital Punishment and Law and Order has published a letter from Mr Norman Tebbit, the Conservative Party chairman, supporting, in part, its policy on capital punishment.

Mr Tebbit said he had always voted in favour of capital punishment, "as has the Prime Minister". He went on: "The problem is that all Labour MPs, Liberals and SDP members, as well as a handful of Conservatives, combine always to defeat us. It may well be that in the light of the alarming increase in the number of murders, the time will come when Parliament will vote the right way."

The organization has incurred the anger of Mr Julian Critchley, Conservative MP for Aldershot, where a meeting is being organized within the next few weeks "to examine Mr Critchley's suitability as an MP."

Mr Neil Lynn, the national organizer of the campaign, says that its strong support in Aldershot suggests that Mr Critchley's constituents "want someone harder on law and order."

Next on the list after Mr Critchley is Mr Gerald Kaufman, Labour shadow Home Secretary, who sits for Manchester Gorton.

The organization plans campaigns against five other MPs, including Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary.

£20m reprieve for atom research

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

One of the main areas of scientific research under threat from cuts in government spending has been reprieved. An extra £20 million has been made available from the Department of Education and Science this year to allow British scientists to continue in the international exploration into the forces which control the universe.

Most of the money will cover a shortfall in the annual subscription for the scores of scientists from British universities who conduct experiments on the huge "atom smasher" at the European Laboratory for Particle Physics Research (Cern), near Geneva.

It is one of the few laboratories in the world at which physicists can create in a machine the extremely powerful "Little Bang" that reproduces the type of conditions existing when the Big Bang gave birth to the universe. Cern's discoveries of the

past few years have transformed scientists' view of the way the forces of nature bind matter together through the discovery of subatomic particles such as the family of quarks.

When the findings of the particle physicist are combined with those of the astronomer, concerning the extraordinary types of energy needed to explain the existence of objects such as black holes, questions that were considered science fiction a few years ago are now being seriously considered.

The threat to continued work, which is paid for through the Science and Engineering Research Council, came after exchange rate difficulties and the fall of sterling against the Swiss franc.

Subscriptions to Cern are made in three instalments each year. To avoid further exchange rate difficulties this year, the research council intends to buy currency forward to protect its position.

London Underground

Strike 'victory by militants in NUR'

By Tim Jones

The 24-hour strike on the London Underground system, which will disrupt the lives of 2.5 million passengers next Wednesday, has been achieved because of the unrelenting efforts of hard-line activists in the National Union of Railmen.

While Mr Jimmy Knapp, the union's general secretary, congratulated them on their efforts, Dr Tony Ridley, chairman of London Underground, accused them of "conducting the 12,500 members with misinformation and deceit."

The management believes NUR staff were panicked into strike action, by 7,426 votes to 1,541, by tales of non-existent plans to cut wages by £50 a week, rumours of privatization and the spectre of job losses caused by competitive tendering.

The strike call surprised Dr Ridley and his management team as Mr Knapp had repeatedly said during the balloting process that he wanted a mandate to strengthen the union's hand during negotiations, and not to rush straight into damaging industrial action.

On this occasion, the union and its activists have mounted a more thorough campaign than in the past, having learnt the lessons of their abortive efforts to halt the network in May 1985.

Then, an indefinite strike call collapsed on the first day, mainly because it was a union instruction and had been ordered without giving members the opportunity to vote.

Since then, Mr Knapp has argued strongly for pre-strike ballots and they were eventually conceded by the union's national executive, in spite of militant arguments that they would be complying with the Conservatives' Trade Union Act, 1984.

One of the issues contested by the union is London Underground's intention to reduce up to 1,500 jobs through natural wastage by having staffed stations in the outer Tube zones, and automatic entry and exit barriers in many other inner line stations. According to Mr Knapp, the plans will "dehumanize" the system.

But the most contentious issue is the legal obligation imposed on London Underground by the London Regional Transport Act, 1984, to tender for ancillary services such as catering, cleaning, track maintenance and the servicing of lifts and escalators.

They are worth an estimated £500 million a year, and have thrust the management team into a highly competitive market where contracts are shored down to the penny.

London Underground has established its own subsidiary, which allows its staff to compete for tenders with outside contractors, and it has more than held its own. The unit has won three of five cleaning contracts so far awarded, worth £1.1 million of a total £1.7 million.

Mr Tom Millman, a spokesman for the union, said yesterday: "The general problem is that accountants have taken over the whole of London Transport. We believe the transport system railwaymen and it should take into account the level of service provided to the public."

He said the union believed that many sections of the system were under threat of privatization, in spite of management denials, with various lines competing against each other.

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WORLD SUMMARY

New York Aids toll up sharply

New York (AP) — Aids claimed 2,139 lives in New York City in 1986, an increase of more than 800 over the previous year.

The New York Times reported that at least 2,790 Aids cases were diagnosed in 1986, compared with 2,362 in 1985, bringing the city's total to 8,681 cases and 4,914 deaths since the disease was first detected in 1981.

New York City's total cases represent 31.7 per cent of the nation's total of 29,083, according to the Centres for Disease Control in Atlanta. San Francisco has the second greatest number of cases with 2,912.

"The fact that it's not a geometric increase shouldn't lull anyone," said Dr Rand L. Stoneburger, head of New York City Health Department's Aids unit. "It's distressing that it continues to increase."

Health officials are particularly concerned about the prolonged latency of Aids. Researchers warn that those who carry the virus may harbour and transmit the virus for years without having symptoms.

Dr Stoneburger said cases contracted by heterosexual partners of Aids carriers rose from 1.4 per cent in 1985 to 2.2 per cent in 1986.

Tamils attacked

Colombo (Reuters) — Two people were killed and seven wounded in a mortar attack launched by Sri Lankan soldiers yesterday while helicopters strafed guerrilla positions in Jaffna for the second day, residents said.

They said that a man and his wife died when mortar fragments ripped into their house. Two state-owned buses were hit by machine-gun fire from two helicopters shortly after the main military camp in Jaffna Fort ended mortar shelling of rebel-held areas, residents said.

Kohl called to testify

Bonn — Chancellor Kohl is to be called to give evidence before a parliamentary committee investigating the illegal sale of U-boat parts to South Africa by a Kiel shipyard in contravention of arms export laws (Johannesburg writes).

The all-party committee, which began work yesterday, is also to question Herr Manfred Wörner, the Defence Minister, as well as nearly 20 senior officials and civil servants from various ministries.

Meanwhile, East-West German relations took another leap backward when Herr Friedrich Zimmermann, the West German Interior Minister, described East Germany as the "biggest prison camp in the world".

Yugoslavs quit party

Belgrade (Reuters) — Thousands of Yugoslavs have given up their membership of the ruling Communist Party, a leading Belgrade newspaper said yesterday.

The semi-official daily Politika said that in Belgrade alone 10,000 people handed in their cards during the past three years, most of them workers and students. Most were disillusioned with the state of the society, and the ruling Communist Party's ineffectiveness in solving the country's serious economic problems, it said.

Bahais arrested

Kampala (AP) — Twelve members of the Bahai faith were arrested amid gunfire yesterday on suspicion of plotting to topple the 11-month-old Government of President Museveni of Uganda, left.

Police in Kampala said that most of the alleged plotters were arrested at the capital's Bahai temple. No one was hurt.

Soldiers check Taba

Taba (Reuters) — US soldiers of the multi-national Sinai force yesterday opened an observation post here, while international arbitrators continued to try to settle the dispute between Israel and Egypt over its sovereignty.

The ten soldiers will observe the 700-yard barren strip from a watch-tower and report any violations by either side during the arbitration proceedings, which began last month in Geneva and are expected to last two years.

Israel retained Taba and its luxury hotel when it returned Sinai to Egypt in 1982 under their 1979 peace treaty.

Blasts at killer lake

Paris (AP) — Three new explosions have been recorded by French scientists working at Lake Nios, in north-west Cameroon, where 1,746 people died in August after a similar explosion released an enormous cloud of poisonous gas, M Haroun Tazieff, a French volcanologist, said yesterday.

Three explosions, three violent detonations, occurred in the space of five minutes, one of which was accompanied by strong flashes of light," he said.

Skier dies at 111

Oslo — The death was announced from Tromsø yesterday of a man who is thought to have been the oldest person in the five Nordic countries, Mr Herman Smith-Johannsen, who was 111 years, six months and 20 days (Tony Samstag writes).

A sports enthusiast who championed Norwegian cross-country skiing, which he continued well into his eleventh decade, he lived in Canada for much of his life, returning to Norway last June on his 111th birthday.

A petition from leading British musicians to Dr. Gustáv Husák, President of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic

We the undersigned are concerned to hear of the arrest of Karel Ševčík, Tomáš Krivánek, Vladimír Kovář, Zdeněk Hlaváček and Vladimír Dvořák, the leading officers of the Jazz Section of the Ministry of Culture of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, and of the charges still standing against Josef Štěpánek, Milos Duda and Vladimír Marš.

As musicians, we value the contribution made by the Jazz Section to the musical life of Czechoslovakia and to the musical culture of Europe. The Jazz Section has also supported in a remarkable way our sister arts, and covered through its work an inspiring vision of the place of culture in modern society. Music is the most international of the arts, and jazz in particular expresses peoples' ability to communicate as a popular level across cultural and political boundaries. By embodying these values so vividly in its activities, the Jazz Section has made a real contribution to world peace and international understanding.

In the spirit of the long-standing friendship that exists between the people of Britain and Czechoslovakia, we appeal to you to intervene on behalf of our colleagues and to uphold the principles of justice. The Jazz Section is a member of the International Federation of Jazz Musicians and we trust that, as a section of the Musicians' Union, it will soon be restored to its full and rightful status of legality. In making this appeal we affirm our commitment to the Helsinki Accords which our respective governments signed in good faith in 1974, and which are still binding on all of us.

Joan Armatrading
David Bailey
Tom Bailey
Simon Baldridge
David Bedford
George Benjamin
Sir Lennart Berkeby
Michael Berkeley
Harrison Birwistle
John Carver
Ian Carr
Kyoung Wun Chung
Tony Coe
Phil Collins
David Cox
Lyall Cresswell
Alan Currie
Peter Maxwell Davies
Carl Davis
Sir Celia Davis
David Drew
Michael Garrick
Bob Geldof
Professor Alexander Goehr
Barthold Goldschmidt
Jill Gomez
Sir Charles Groves
Barry Guy
Professor Jonathan Harvey
Jon Hiseman
Robin Holloway
Elton John
Nigel Kennedy
Gerry King
Mark Knopfler
Oliver Knussen
Professor Kenneth Leighton
Paul McCartney
John Maynard
Sir Yehudi Menuhin
Anthony Milner
Professor Donald Mitchell
Stephen Montague
Peter Nelson
Vince Osborne
Simon Rattle
Don Rendell
Elly Rasmussen
Daryl Rowntree
Basilinda
Robert Simpson
Sling
Barbara Thompson
Sir Michael Tippett
Pete Townshend
Stevie Wonder
Penelope Walton-Clarke
Andrew Lloyd Webber
Hugh Wood

Mitterrand smiles as Chirac fights early election rumours

From Diana Geddes, Paris

Less than 10 months after the conservative coalition's victory at the polls, the beleaguered Government of M Jacques Chirac is being confronted by rumours of an early general election.

The Government's position is far from comfortable: crippling strikes and an apparent deadlock on the trade union front; mounting pressure on the French franc; a threatened war in Chad; impasse over efforts to free the French hostages in Beirut; renewed threats and attempted bomb attacks by terrorists; and a socialist President who looks calmly on and criticizes from the sidelines.

M Chirac raised the possibility of an early election when he said in a radio interview on Tuesday night that if an agreement was not reached soon to end the present industrial unrest, "anything is possible... including, of course, a situation from which there is no way out save by going to the country".

"But we have not yet reached that point," he continued. "Personally, I hope it does not happen. An early election would mean that there was a crisis, and I do not wish to have a crisis on the French people."

In fact, M Chirac cannot choose whether or not to go to the country. The right to dissolve Parliament and call

elections is the prerogative of the President alone, and when M. Mitterrand was asked about his views on the subject during a reception for journalists at the Elysee on Tuesday, he replied: "Why should I dissolve the National Assembly? A way out will be found."

Relations between the President and his Prime Minister have appeared increasingly strained of late, with M Chirac for the first time criticizing M Mitterrand in public, notably over his decision to receive a delegation of rail strikers on New Year's Day.

Asked in his Tuesday night radio interview about M Mitterrand's description of himself as an "umpire" during

the present period of political cohabitation, M Chirac replied that he certainly did not feel that M Mitterrand was behaving as an umpire would, imposing penalties even-handedly between the right and the left.

Did he, however, feel supported by M Mitterrand's comments on the need to give priority to the fight against inflation? "I don't feel the President's aim is to support the Government. I have rather the opposite impression on the whole," he replied.

M Mitterrand, for his part, when asked about the deterioration of his relations with his Prime Minister, replied with a smile: "I personally am

not living in the midst of a crisis. I don't know of any political crisis... I'm not seeking to impede the Government in any way. Sometimes I issue warnings. But I make the day-to-day operation of the Government as easy as possible."

The latest opinion polls agree in showing M Mitterrand as the main beneficiary of the present period of cohabitation, and predict that he would win hands down a presidential election against M Chirac or any other right-wing candidate.

However, the same polls show that the right would stand to win comfortably a parliamentary election. That

is M Mitterrand's dilemma, and that is why most pundits continue to believe that a general election is not around the corner, despite the Government's difficulties.

Furthermore, it is not easy to predict who will emerge as the overall winner from the complex and confused industrial relations.

The Government has already won praise from its supporters for its firm stand against the strikers, and may yet win the day against a weak and divided trade union movement whose members receive no strike pay and who therefore may not be able to keep up the momentum for much longer.

France bombs Libyan base in Chad as US flies in help

From Diana Geddes, Paris

France bombed the Libyan-occupied military base of Wadi Doum in the north of Chad yesterday and destroyed radar equipment in retaliation for Sunday's raid by Libyan jets against the village of Arada in the government-controlled south.

In a short statement confirming the bombardment, the French Ministry of Defence said that French forces based in Chad had "neutralized radar installations" at the military base near the Libyan border. There was no report of any casualties.

It is understood that about a dozen French Jaguar jets were involved in the operation. All are said to have returned safely.

Nearly 1,400 French troops are currently based in Chad in accordance with a defence agreement between Paris and the government of President Hissene Habré.

Both M Jacques Chirac, the French Prime Minister, and President Mitterrand had given hints of a French reply to the Libyan air strike during conversations with journalists on Tuesday. Both made clear, however, that there would be only a limited, one-off operation and that France had no desire to become involved in an escalation of hostilities with Libya.

The Libyan People's Bureau in Paris declined to make any comment last night on the French bombardment.

But in a statement on Tuesday confirming Sunday's raid, the Bureau had been at pains to stress that the incursion into the south "was an exceptional act of riposte which will not be repeated

unless there is a new act of aggression."

The last French attack against Libyan targets in Chad was nearly 11 months ago when French planes bombed the same base at Wadi Doum, which they claimed was being used to support Libyan-backed incursions across the 16th parallel dividing the rebel-held north from the south. The French and Libyans agreed to that demarcation line in 1984.

That bombardment prompted a Libyan counter-attack less than 24 hours later, during which the runway of the airport at Njamena was badly damaged.

US aid: French military sources say that two American C 5 Galaxy military transport aircraft left France yesterday with a cargo of some 30 military vehicles for Chad. They described the operation as part of an American, rather than French, military aid effort in support of the Chad Government.

The vehicles are scout and support trucks specially equipped for desert use and have a range of up to 1,000 miles.

The US Embassy in Paris has declined to comment on the airlift, but a State Department spokesman in Washington confirmed that deliveries of equipment were under way.

Last month the US said that it would give an extra \$15 million in military aid to M Habré, further to the \$5 million for 1987.

The sources also said that more troops were about to leave France for Chad, but French military officials say that it is "absolutely out of the question" to send more men.



Police with batons and riot shields moving on striking French railway workers at Nice station yesterday in an attempt to prevent the strikers' taking over station facilities as they have done in several other centres.

The Times crystal-gazing irks Pravda

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

Pravda yesterday carried a strongly-worded attack on The Times under the intriguing headlines "Hard times for anti-Sovieters" and "How The Times advised the Soviet Union to refuse socialism".

The article, by the paper's London correspondent, Mr Arkady Maslennikov, was an angry response to a recent editorial written to mark this year's 70th anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution.

The Times mused about what might have happened here if it had not taken place and the Soviet Union had developed instead into what Pravda referred to scathingly as "the bourgeois democratic country".

Commenting on the exchange of views between London and Moscow, Tass dismissed The Times editorial as "fabrications about the reorganization currently under way in the Soviet Union".

According to Pravda, the

arguments used in The Times followed "the well-worn track of lies".

The Soviet party paper was particularly incensed at what it claimed was the assumption made at Wapping that socialism had caused the "liquidation" of Russia's cultural heritage and "eliminated intellectual traditions and aspirations for knowledge".

It was as if the Bolshoi Ballet did not come from the Soviet Union when it made triumphal tours of Britain, the Communist Party newspaper complained, as if the first Sputnik was not launched from the Soviet Union, as if the first cosmonaut was not Soviet, and the first atomic icebreaker not designed by Soviet scientists.

It accused the editors of The Times of "speaking through set teeth" in referring to the recent Kremlin policy of glasnost (openness) in the official Soviet media, but claiming at the same time that when compared with the

situation in the West it was still limited.

Warning to its subject, Pravda added its own suggestions about what life in the Soviet Union in 1987 would be like if "the country with its population of 280 million had really followed the course of Great Britain under its present Conservative Government".

It explained sarcastically: "The Soviet Union would have to have between 15 and 20 million unemployed. More than one million of our citizens would have to sleep on park benches or under bridges. Every Soviet citizen would have a chance to be robbed twice during their life."

Tens of millions of Soviet citizens whose skin is not quite white would have to be second-class people, like millions of those in Britain whose parents came from Asia, Africa and the Caribbean."

The paper continued: "It is hard to imagine what simpleton the editors of The Times had in mind when advertising

their 'heaven in a Western way' and laughably giving instructions to the Soviet people about the way they should live."

Its London correspondent concluded: "It cannot be excluded that this is a result of the snobbish contempt of Britain's elite to the common sense of other peoples."

"In this respect, I remembered how I saw an old lady in a shop giving instructions to the coloured shop girl, ordering her to follow her own example in everything she did. 'While reading the article, I could easily imagine the same old lady writing in a similar vein.'"

But discussing the article and the response later, it was apparent that not all Muscovites shared his views.

"We might all have been very much better off if the Revolution had not taken place. There is a possibility to be considered," said one citizen.

Shultz to discuss Libya plan

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent

Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, is to have discussions with Kenyan leaders about Libya's attempts to spread its influence into East Africa.

Washington is concerned that Libyan bombings in Chad and Colonel Gaddafi's overtures to Uganda and Sudan may have a wider destabilizing influence in sub-Saharan and East African countries.

Libya is not the main focus of his tour, but it will loom large in the Kenyan visit.

President arap Moi of Kenya is understood to share Washington's nervousness after a visit Colonel Gaddafi made to Kampala last year.

Washington and Whitehall were at first reassured by indications that President Museveni of Uganda had no illusions about Libya.

Whitehall still retains its confidence that the pragmatic Mr Museveni will not be over-influenced by Libya, but Washington views the relationship with unease.

Mr Shultz is also expected to discuss relations between Tripoli and Khartoum. Sudan's Prime Minister, Mr Sadiq al-Mahdi, denied in October that it went beyond good neighbourliness, but US officials were not convinced.

The fear is that Sudan's border with Chad may already be providing a staging post for Libyan forces in the Chad war.

Mr Shultz is to visit Senegal, Cameroon, Kenya, Nigeria, Ivory Coast and Liberia. All have been chosen because the US approves of their economic policies or intentions.

Ivory Coast has greatly increased its prosperity under President Houphouët-Boigny, allowing dominant French and American businessmen to apply free market principles.

Pisa inclined to reject idea to 'save' tower by cutting belfry

From Peter Nichols, Rome

The idea that the way to save the leaning tower of Pisa from final collapse is to cut off its belfry has run into trouble.

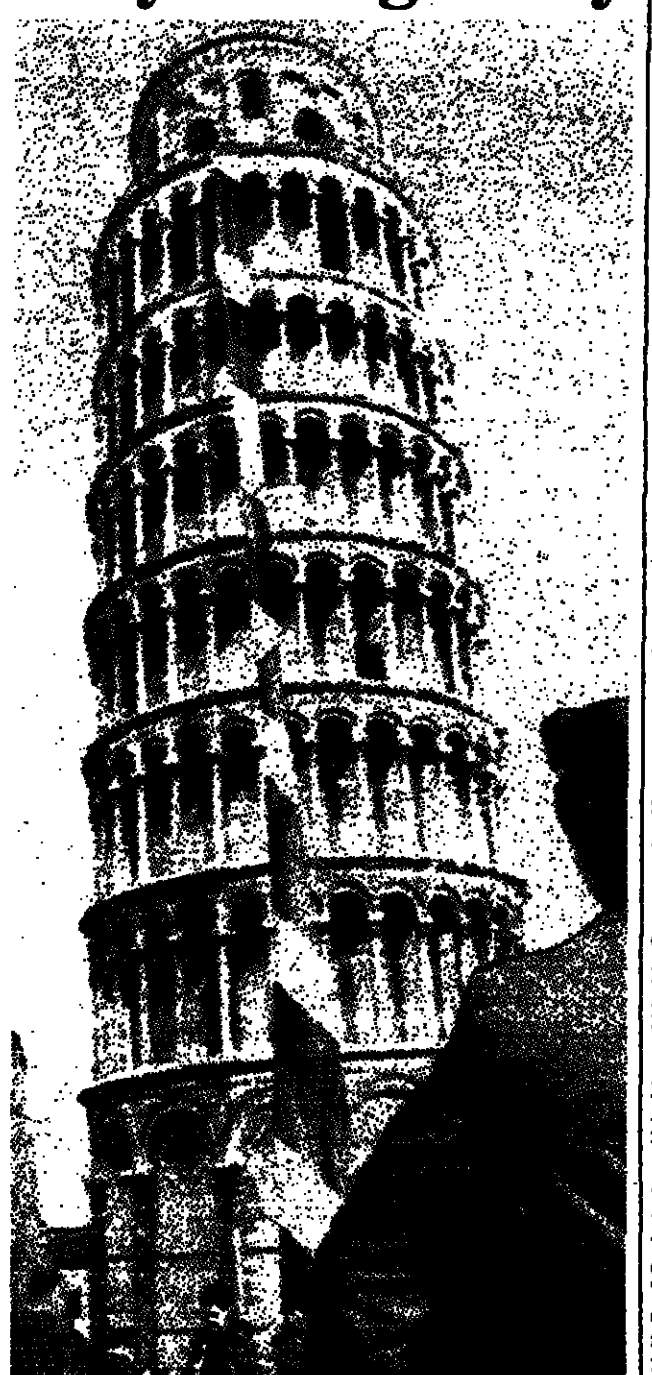
Nobody is quite clear who fathered the proposal originally, but members of the government's ministerial commission for safeguarding what is probably Italy's most famous monument, as well as leading figures in Pisa's own body which watches over the tower, deny that any such project exists.

It nevertheless has a certain logic. The tower leans a little more each year, on an average by an annual .0496 of an inch. And so by all the laws of science and gravity it must one day collapse. Exactly when that will happen is something on which there is no agreement at all. But the belfry, with its eight bells weighs 735 tonnes, as opposed to the 14,453-tonne weight of the whole tower. It is almost 25 feet high and could arguably be taken to be favouring the tendency to lean.

Proposals for solving the tower's problem are put forward with the same regularity as the sightings of the Loch Ness monster, and the vast majority of them are rejected out of hand. And even when apparently sound projects have been applied they have not been much help.

One idea in the past was that cement should be injected into the foundations; but after 93 tonnes of it had been used the speed of the tower's descent increased a little rather than stopping. As the problem does in fact lie in the foundations, another suggestion involved dismantling the tower and rebuilding it on another site. But that has never been tried.

The lean is almost as old as the tower itself. Began in August 1173, the tower had already begun to lean when the builders reached the fourth gallery and work was stopped after five years. It was resumed in 1272, when the fifth, sixth and seventh galleries were added in such a way as to try to counteract the lean. In 1278 work was again halted, only to be resumed 90 years later when the top belfry was added.



Leaning tower of Pisa: the tilt is almost as old as the tower.

Again there was the clear intention to provide a counterweight, and this is used against the argument now being put forward that the belfry should be removed.

It is pointed out by opponents of the scheme that the belfry may well be heavy but it adds to rather than detracting

from the tower's stability.

What is thought the more likely solution is that modern methods would be applied to strengthening the foundations; and while this work is in progress the whole tower would be propped up to prevent its toppling while the reinforcement is carried out.

Removal of troops 'not far off'

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, yesterday ended the highest-ranking Kremlin visit to Afghanistan since the intervention of Soviet forces in 1979 with the optimistic assertion that the withdrawal of troops was "not far off".

Mr Shevardnadze, accompanied on his three-day visit by Mr Anatoly Dobrynin, the senior Kremlin foreign policy adviser, gave no hint of any new Soviet willingness to shorten its suggested withdrawal timetable of three to four years, which has been the main point of contention at peace talks sponsored by the United Nations.

In a farewell interview with the official Afghan news agency, he said: "A political settlement is not a remote prospect but a reality today. The issue of withdrawing the Soviet troops is being considered by us and the Government of democratic Afghanistan accordingly."

"We have already made a first step in this direction by taking six of our regiments out. So the issue of Soviet troops withdrawal is utterly clear. This event is not far off. All that is needed is that neighbouring countries to realize what is in their interests and what is not."

Unconfirmed Moscow diplomatic reports have indicated that the Soviet side might be prepared to shorten its schedule for leaving to two years.

Mr Shevardnadze, who returned to Moscow last night, was at pains to deny claims that a political settlement depends solely on withdrawal. "It depends primarily on an end to outside interference and on guarantees of non-resumption," he said.

A five-page communiqué on the Soviet-Afghan talks calls on all those involved in the fighting to take part in a Government six-month ceasefire to begin on January 15.

● LONDON: Soviet troops will return to their garrisons as part of the ceasefire, Mr Ahmed Sarwar, the acting Afghan chargé d'affaires, said yesterday (Reuters reports).

Casey fears confirmed by hospital

From Michael Binyon, Washington

While President Reagan is said to be making an excellent recovery in hospital, the condition of Mr William Casey, the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency who had a cancerous brain tumour removed three weeks ago, is more serious and improving only slowly.

For the first time, Georgetown University Hospital in Washington has confirmed that Mr Casey still has difficulty in speaking and in movement of the right side of his body.

The hospital says that radiation treatment has begun for his cancer, and that Mr Casey is in a stable condition. The statement followed reports that he was unable to talk or walk, had lost control of the right side of his body and would not be able to return to work.

A CAT scanner X-ray, the final medical test on Mr Reagan during his stay in hospital, showed that he is free of cancer and is fit and well.

Colonel John Huston, his personal physician, said that the 90-minute scan, performed on Tuesday evening, "showed no abnormalities or disease other than evidence of previous surgical procedures (lung, colon and prostate)". He said that the results were compatible with those of a much younger man.

Leaving out of his hospital window, President Reagan said "my prayers are with him", when asked about Mr Casey, a close friend.

The White House again denied yesterday that it is looking for a replacement.

But Administration officials have admitted privately that several names are already being considered. The front runners appear to be Mr Robert Gates, the deputy director, who has been running the agency in Mr Casey's absence, and General Vernon Walters, the US Ambassador to the United Nations and a former deputy director.

Mr Casey is reported to have been involved closely in supplying weapons to the Nicaraguan Contras.

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Howe warns of public opinion damage to US over trade war

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, served warning yesterday that proposed United States sanctions against EEC exports could have a damaging impact on British and wider European public opinion of America. In a two-day meeting in Bermuda, he asked Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, to consider the broad political impact of the sanctions and not to view them from a straight profit-and-loss perspective.

Sir Geoffrey pointed out that the effects of a trade war could not be isolated from attitudes affecting the Western alliance. It could impose a strain within Nato at a time when crucial East-West talks were under way. He also pointed out that the Administration was now under stronger domestic pressure to take a tough line. For weeks US officials have sounded warnings that if Europe failed to settle before the Democrats took over the Senate it would become harder to back away from a trade war. Although Mr Shultz said it

was not yet too late to avoid a confrontation, there may not be another opportunity to weigh the political consequences. The Shultz-Howe talks were the highest-level discussions scheduled before Washington's latest deadline, January 31.

Although more talks are scheduled in Washington for January 22-24, they will be of a technical nature and the US representative will be relatively junior.

If these last-ditch talks fail, the EEC Council of Ministers will begin drawing up counter-measures at its meeting on January 26. It has already accepted the principle of matching US sanctions.

The Bermuda talks also covered the East-West arms control talks, which are about to reopen in Geneva, a review of Africa and the Nicaraguan war.

Mr Shultz and Sir Geoffrey saw eye to eye on Africa but agreed to differ on the forthcoming Contadora initiative aimed at ending the conflict in Nicaragua.

Sir Geoffrey voiced strong support for the initiative during visits to two Contadora group members - Colombia and Mexico - before arriving in Bermuda.



The Bermudian Prime Minister, Mr John Swan, centre, greeting Mr Shultz and Sir Geoffrey Howe at a reception.

Knesset in fury over bank chief

From David Bernstein, Jerusalem

Israel's largest commercial bank, Bank Leumi, was rocked by a withering attack in the Knesset yesterday on the huge sums it has doled out in severance and pension payments to Mr Ernst Japhet, its former chairman.

He was forced to resign last year with the heads of Israel's other leading banks after publication of the investigation into the shares scandal which brought the banks close to collapse in 1984.

He is reported to have received about \$5 million (£3.4 million) in severance pay - "a sum it would take an ordinary employee of the bank 500 years to earn," one outraged member told the Knesset yesterday - as well as a \$30,000 monthly pension.

Knesset members from all sections were unanimous in their onslaught on Bank Leumi. "A rogue, who was sacked from his job, has now received a massive pension," said Mr Mordechai Virshupsky, of the centrist Shinui Party. He described it as Israel's biggest bank robbery.

"A criminal act that strikes to the heavens," charged Mr Matti Peled, of the left-wing Popular Front for Peace and Equality, calling for a thorough investigation of how Mr Japhet had managed to arrange such huge sums for himself. "Was there some kind of conspiracy?" he asked.

Much of the animus behind the attack derives from the fact that the country's leading banks, including Bank Leumi, were bailed out by huge sums of public money after their near collapse in 1984, and that Mr Japhet had been involved in the manipulation of bank shares which led to that crisis.

Criticism was not limited to Mr Japhet alone. It was directed also at the bank's governor, Mr Arye Dulzin, and members of the bank's board who approved the sums allotted to its former chairman.

One board member, Mr Yosef Pecker, a leading industrialist, has already resigned over the scandal. Others could follow suit after the emergency meeting of the board scheduled for last night to discuss the matter.

Peking students stay indoors

From David Bonavia, Peking

The Chinese official press yesterday continued to lecture the nation's students on their rights and responsibilities, even though most had their heads down over their examinations.

In freezing weather, the students at Peking's main universities have withdrawn from their almost daily demonstrations in favour of more democracy in Chinese government and Communist Party affairs.

But it was rumoured that students from Shanghai were planning to descend on the capital in an effort to sustain the campaign of demonstrations which has dominated the past month in Peking.

A top-level official spokesman declined at his regular weekly briefing session for foreign correspondents yesterday to be drawn on the subject.

Meanwhile the *People's Daily* printed the comments of legal experts at a discussion session on the issue of democracy and "bourgeois liberalisation", in which the country's leading sociologist said that the students did not understand the difference between "socialist democracy" and its "bourgeois" equivalent.

Other legal experts were cited as saying that there was no true democracy in western countries and that the Chinese political way of life guaranteed a share for all in a system in which individual rights were qualified by duties and obligations.

The *Peking Daily* - copies of which were burnt by students at Peking University three days ago - printed a

commentary by a factory manager who said that some managers who had come to work at the enterprise had been welcomed by the workers for their fresh and innovative approach.

Others, however, had not performed so well and both workers and staff at the large factory were hostile to the current student protest movement.

More group political discussion groups than usual are being held in Peking hotels, including an apparent wish on the part of the country's authorities to ensure that those closest to "bourgeois" foreign influences should understand fully the idealization of western forms of democratic government.

Canada prepares crackdown on flood of refugees

From John Best, Ottawa

The Canadian Government is preparing new and tougher immigration laws in the wake of an unprecedented influx of people from Turkey and elsewhere who have arrived claiming refugee status.

The sudden increase has strained immigrant handling facilities in Montreal to the limit and has triggered demands by the Quebec provincial government for more federal help in dealing with it.

In the last four months of 1986 nearly 7,000 people arrived in Canada hoping to be accepted as refugees. Most arrived by air at Montreal, Turks being the largest national group, but there were also many Iranians, Sri Lankans, Chileans and Ghanais.

Hundreds of others have arrived by bus from Central America, via the United States. One recent weekend more than 600 would-be refugees arrived in Montreal, including 263 Turks.

In the whole of last year an estimated 12,000 people claiming the status of refugee reached Quebec. The Bill for emergency assistance and welfare payments is estimated by provincial authorities at \$240 million (some £20 million) in the year ending on March 31. Half of that will be paid by the federal Government.

The wave of claimants has brought calls on the federal Government to exercise more control over entry into Canada, and to close loopholes in the law which invite abuse and circumvention.

At the same time, refugee advocacy groups are expressing alarm that an anticipated government crackdown may go too far.

Representatives of 19 such groups met Mr Benoit Bouchard, Minister of Employ-

ment and Immigration, in Ottawa on Tuesday to urge moderation.

Afterwards they expressed disappointment with the discussion and accused Mr Bouchard of reacting to what he perceives to be a racist backlash in Canadian society. "I never heard a minister set up a just system based on racism," one delegate said angrily.

Mr Bouchard has promised early introduction in Parliament of a Bill to overhaul the present immigration Act. Among other things, the legislation will aim at reducing drastically (to "a couple of weeks", Mr Bouchard says) the time it takes to rule on an application for refugee status.

At present, a determined person with a good lawyer can spin out the process, with its built-in appeal mechanisms, for two or three years. Often, once the cumbersome procedure is launched, people simply disappear, becoming illegal immigrants.

Mr Bouchard acknowledged that the present system was being abused widely and systematically. Canada should always be open to true refugees, he said, those who have a well grounded fear of persecution if they return to their homeland. "But we have to warn all the people who would like to reach our country that we will have to deal more severely with those who are not refugees."

Besides speeding the processing of applications, the coming legislation is expected to give immigration inspectors more latitude to decide quickly whether somebody qualifies as a refugee, and to send him home if he fails to meet the test.

Immigration officials have expressed doubt that most recent claimants are bona fide refugees.

Macao transfer to China set for 1999

From Martha de la Cal, Lisbon

Portugal will hand Macao to China by 1999 rather than after the year 2000 as the Lisbon Government had wanted. It had hoped to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the arrival of Portuguese traders in Macao in 1516.

The date of transfer was decided on Tuesday during a meeting of the Council of State called in Lisbon by President Mario Soares. It had been one of the main stumbling blocks holding up an agreement to transfer the administration of the territory to China.

Macao became "a territory under Portuguese administration" rather than a Portuguese colony in 1979 when Portugal and China established diplomatic relations. Talks for the transfer began two years ago.

The Council of State, made up of the President, the Prime Minister, the chief of the armed forces and other important authorities, also discussed other questions still to be agreed upon.

One problem concerns dual nationality. Before 1982, all residents in Macao had the right to choose Portuguese citizenship.

The law was changed because thousands of Chinese flocked into Macao from the mainland to take up that option.

It is now necessary to prove five-year residence and have a basic knowledge of Portuguese to be eligible. Portugal believes that about one-third of the 400,000 residents in Macao have the right to Portuguese citizenship.

considers the Chinese in Macao to be Chinese citizens.

Lisbon also wants to protect the interests of the 11,000 Portuguese in Macao - many of them Macanese - who have been there for generations and have business interests, and time to train an efficient administration to take over.

The Portuguese Government signed a gambling concession contract with the Stanley Ho Group which will run until 1996 and is renewable until 2002.

It guarantees £100 million per year to the territory in addition to between 26 and 30 per cent in gambling revenues, and will help finance projects, which include an airport on Taipa, a bridge and tunnel between Taipa and Macao and a number of new housing developments.

Portugal also wants to be assured that the Portuguese cultural heritage and language will be preserved.

At a meeting this month in Peking, Portugal and China will discuss these questions and agree on the basic law which is intended to govern the territory during the period of transition.

Macao will be allowed a great amount of autonomy. China has also agreed that a dual economic system will be permitted to exist during transition.

In spite of assurances that their rights will be protected, many Portuguese and Macanese are now transferring their business interests to Portugal, Brazil or other countries.

West German elections

Poor harvest of postal voters likely

From John England, Bonn

West German political parties are hoping for bonus votes in the federal election later this month from Germans living abroad. For the first time, expatriates will be able to take part in the poll on January 25 through a system of postal votes.

The parties, however, could be in for a disappointingly poor harvest: 500,000 of the estimated 500,000 *Auslandsdeutsche* do not appear to have heeded calls from the Fatherland to sign up in time to exercise their right.

Last August, the federal election commissioner's office in Wiesbaden sent about 300,000 application forms for registration on electoral rolls to West German diplomatic missions around the world.

But only 46,000 completed forms had been received by the office by the deadline of last Sunday.

About another 1,500 arrived at the Bonn city election office, which is responsible for German diplomats abroad. It is not known yet how many expatriates have sent forms to offices in their home towns.

"The final total will no doubt be much less than we had hoped for," Herr Klaus Gaspers, an official in Wiesbaden, said. "But the postal system is new and we must give Germans overseas time to get used to the idea that they now have a vote."

The poor response cannot be blamed on lack of information: the federal press office has sent 400,000 full-colour leaflets to diplomatic missions, German clubs and Ger-



Herr Rau on the hustings: looking for overseas votes.

The political parties in Bonn, sending extra votes from a previously untapped source equalling more than 1 per cent of the domestic electorate, were also quick to court the expatriates.

Chancellor Kohl's Christian Democratic Union (CDU), for example, distributed bundles of a special party newspaper for *Auslandsdeutsche* throughout the world.

Closer home, the conservatives, their Free Democratic Party (FDP) coalition partners, and the Social Democratic Party (SPD) Opposition have paid special attention to

the 20,000 West German citizens who live and work in Brussels.

Herr Johannes Rau, the SPD candidate for the Chancellorship, spoke there at the opening of the election campaign. Herr Martin Bange, the FDP leader, and Herr Heinz Riesenhuber, the West German Research Minister, have also been campaigning in Brussels.

The Bavarian Christian Social Union (CSU), sister-party to the CDU, has so far been represented in Brussels only by a West German Government senior official, Herr Lutz Stavenhagen, state minister in the Foreign Ministry. But with Herr Kohl urging the CDU to go for all the votes it can get, a political personality might well drop by there in the run-up to the poll.

About 80,000 West Germans are living in Switzerland but the country, frustratingly, is a "no-go" area for the Bonn politicians. The Swiss rule that election campaign rallies on their soil by foreigners are incompatible with their sovereign rights.

They also frown upon West Germans in Switzerland using the new postal vote system, and Swiss post offices are said to be refusing to forward election material to or from them.

An expatriate must either drive across the border to West Germany or another neighbouring country to collect and send election material, or do his electoral trafficking in plain brown envelopes.

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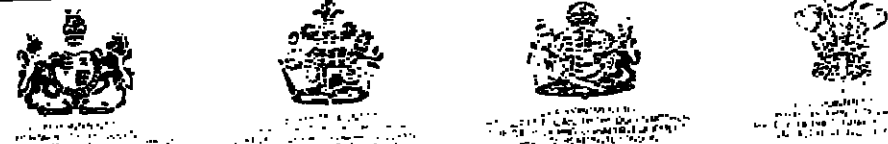
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Four killed as Chamoun escapes car-bomb attack in east Beirut

From Juan Carlos Gummio, Beirut

Mr Camille Chamoun, a former president of Lebanon who at the age of 86 remains the most revered Christian politician in the country, survived a new assassination attempt yesterday, when a car bomb exploded yards away from his vehicle.

Mr Chamoun suffered only minor cuts, but three of his armed escorts and a pedestrian were killed in the explosion. More than 35 people were injured.

The explosion happened as Mr Chamoun's motorcade drove through the district of Matn in Christian east Beirut. A blue Peugeot laden with more than 160 lb of dynamite exploded seconds after his grey Mercedes-Benz was driven by. The blast of the explosion was taken by a station wagon holding his escorts, and the force was so great that it catapulted Mr Chamoun's car almost 20 yards away.

No group has claimed responsibility for the explosion, which hurled several blazing cars on to footpaths and against walls, causing damage for some 400 yards around.

Mr Chamoun, with considerable aplomb, declared that he was convinced that divine intervention had saved him from an instant death. "This is



Mr Chamoun: Minor cuts in fourth attempt on his life.

been a vitriolic critic of Syria's policies in Lebanon, of the role of the Palestine Liberation Organization in the country, and of the Shia Muslim factions aligned with Iran.

At present Minister of Finance in Lebanon's paralysed Cabinet, he made history before the end of his presidential term in 1958 when he invited

5,000 US Marines to Lebanon to quell a Muslim uprising, ushering in the first direct American military intervention in the region.

Mr Chamoun was driven home yesterday shortly after having received the visit of President Gemayel, who hurried to the hospital to make sure that the veteran politician, widely regarded as his mentor, was being well treated.

Mr Chamoun has escaped violent death three times before, and was wounded by a Muslim gunman in 1968. The last time assassins tried to kill him was in November 1985, when a car bomb exploded near a monastery in east Beirut during a meeting of the former president's right-wing National Liberal Party.

● METULA: A rocket fired from the Lebanese side of the border hit a building in Galilee, northern Israel, on Tuesday night, Israeli security sources said yesterday (Reuters reports). No-one was injured.

The sources said that the rocket was fired from outside the self-proclaimed "security zone" set up by Israel on the Lebanese side of the border in 1985.

Military censors would not allow reporters to give the location or nature of the building for security reasons.

Harare and rebels blamed for unrest

From Jan Raath, Harare

Guerrilla unrest and subsequent military activity have increased in Zimbabwe's western provinces over the past six months, according to the country's human rights watchdog body.

The Roman Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace in Zimbabwe, in its most recent newsletter, says that during the year "many have been left homeless, orphans, maimed; many have been arrested, detained, ill treated and, indeed, some have died".

It ascribes the worsened situation not only to "the dissident menace", as the authorities refer to guerrillas in the country's western provinces of Matabeleland, but also to measures taken by security forces to contain the unrest.

The newsletter's reports came after contrary assessments by political leaders in the country. They say that last year showed the lowest level of military activity since 1982, when former guerrilla loyal to Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zanu party took to the bush for a campaign against the Government of Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister.

Last week, however, Mr Enos Chikwira, Minister for Local Government, announced that district elections in parts of Matabeleland, where the Ndebele-speaking minority tribe supports Zanu overwhelmingly, would have to be postponed because of heightened "dissident" activity.

The report also says that the Mozambique war is claiming "many lives in both Zimbabwe and Mozambique, leaving behind a trail of misery".

Farmer living near the Mozambique border have for long reported hearing gunfire and explosions from the east, but this is one of the first indications that the violence is spilling into Zimbabwe.

US gauges Husain's peace wish

Amman (Reuters) — Mr Richard Murphy, the US special envoy visiting Jordan to assess Middle East peace prospects in the wake of the failure of the US-Iran arms deal, held a working lunch yesterday with King Hussein.

The official Jordanian news agency, Petra, said that Crown Prince Hassan and the Prime Minister, Mr Zaid Rifai, were also present at the talks at the royal palace.

US officials, who have been playing down the tour, said Mr Murphy would meet other Jordanian leaders before leaving today for Egypt or Israel.

Mr Murphy, who last toured the area in September, said on arrival on Tuesday night that he expected the Iran issue to figure in discussions with Jordanian leaders.

But he stressed that his main aim was to discuss peace prospects and bilateral relations. "I think the peace process in this region is an issue of great importance to all of us," he said.

The Iran arms deal angered Arab moderates, including Jordan. King Hussein, who supports Iraq in its six-year-old war with Iran, has described it as "an insult to all Arabs".

● MOSCOW — The Soviet Foreign Ministry said yesterday that efforts to convene an international peace conference on the Middle East — centrepiece of current Kremlin policy — were entering a "qualitatively new stage". (Christopher Walker writes).



Mr William Stern and his wife, Elizabeth, arriving at the Bergen County Courthouse in Hackensack, New Jersey, for a hearing in their legal fight for the custody of their child born to a surrogate mother, Mrs Mary Whitehead, under contract for \$10,000. Mrs Whitehead, who was artificially inseminated with Mr Stern's sperm, now wants to keep the child.

Political tensions in southern Africa

Right wing taps white fears in bid to become Opposition

From George Brock, Randfontein

"Muldergate". He briefly ran his own party before joining forces with Dr Andries Treurnicht's Conservatives when they finally left the Nationalist front in 1982.

Dr Geldenhuys was a minister of the Dutch Reformed Church before entering politics and took his doctorate in Chinese communism; he talks with gusto about the "revolutionary total onslaught" which he says makes further reform difficult for the moment.

A peculiarly South African form of canvassing is "house meetings" at which the candidate discusses issues with a

dozen or so voters in a private home.

Dr Geldenhuys said the worries he expects to hear centre on the Group Areas Act (which fixes residential racial boundaries) and threats to segregated schooling. He has naturally been glad to hear that President Botha had been emphasizing his commitment to group areas only recently.

Dr Mulder, whose chances of gaining the seat are good, cheerfully attacks the Government's switchback policy changes between legal reform and repression as incoherent.

"The Government is trying to be everything to everybody," he said. "We had a referendum to include Coloureds and Asians in their

own parliaments but excluding blacks. That created opposition and aggression by blacks.

"In the end, you have to share political power with everybody. The end of that street is majority rule. Forget it."

The Conservative Party alternative is partition: separate states carved out of the present South Africa in which different races can arrange their political systems and rights as they choose.

But this is a less important part of the Conservative appeal than white fears of black "infiltration" and economic pressure.

Dr Mulder says that he has whites coming to him with an increasing caseload of economic hardship.

"I have people who have had to give up eating red meat; people who are having their homes repossessed. Cashiers in the supermarkets used to be white married women bringing home a little extra money. Now they've all been replaced by cheaper black labour," he said.

With inflation heading for 20 per cent, the appeal of those arguments to poorer white voters in the industrial areas of the Transvaal will be more potent than it was in the last general election in 1981.

The exact total of Conservative Party gains will partly be determined by the party's fractured relations with the HNP, no division of candidacies has been agreed. With an agreement, a CP/HNP alliance could, at best, triple the Conservatives' present strength to about 50 seats.

At that figure the party would certainly overtake the FPF, a possibility vigorously discounted by the party's veteran MP, Mrs Helen Suzman. The only opinion poll since President Botha's announcement, carried out by the Afrikaans newspaper *Rapport*, gave the National Party 49.6 per cent, the FPF (and its one ally) 21.6 per cent and the CP/HNP 17.1 per cent.

Maputo bows to pressure

From Our Own Correspondent Johannesburg

Six African National Congress (ANC) officials are to be expelled from Mozambique just as the guerrilla organization celebrates its 75th anniversary.

The expulsions demonstrate the difficulties which the exiled ANC leadership experiences in trying to maintain a presence near South Africa's borders — let alone inside the country itself where it is illegal.

The group apparently includes Mr Jacob Zuma, the ANC chief representative in Maputo, the capital. Mr Oliver Tambo, president of the ANC, visited Maputo last week and is reported to have discussed the position of the ANC with the Mozambican Government.

South Africa has put pressure on Mozambique to force the ANC officials out under the terms of a bilateral non-aggression agreement, the Nkomati Accord.

At the time, Mozambique expelled a large number of ANC activists but recent incidents indicate that the ANC continues to base supporters in Mozambique, Botswana and Swaziland.

South Africa nevertheless retains many economic and military forms of leverage which it can use against its weaker neighbours to force their unwilling co-operation against the ANC. President Joaquim Chissano of Mozambique alleged this week that South Africa had infiltrated "thousands" of troops into the country in what amounted to an invasion.

Meanwhile, the ANC prepares for celebrations today in the Zambian capital, Lusaka, where it has its headquarters, and Mr Tambo is expected to make a significant policy statement at a crucial time for the organization. He will shortly have his first meeting with Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State.

Chernobyl style reactor shut down

Richland, Washington (AP) — The only US nuclear reactor with a design similar to that of the Chernobyl plant is being shut down for extensive safety improvements.

Opponents of the 23-year-old reactor, which produces plutonium for nuclear weapons and steam for generating electricity, say the modifications do not go far enough.

Like Chernobyl, the "N" reactor does not have a concrete and steel containment dome. The \$50 million (\$34 million) in improvements will neither address that issue, nor the possibility of a potentially explosive build-up of hydrogen during an accident.

Colonel to aid Kampala

Kampala (Reuters) — Britain has appointed Colonel Robert Llewellyn to be special military training adviser to the Ugandan Government, a British High Commission spokesman said.

He will be attached to Republic House, headquarters of President Museveni's National Resistance Army, and help the Government identify military training needs.

Search off

Bahrain (Reuters) — An American helicopter fired on in the Gulf was probably mistaken for an Iranian aircraft and a US Navy hunt for the ship that launched the missile has been called off, sources said.

Island poll

Paris (Reuters) — France said it would press ahead with an independence referendum for New Caledonia this year despite growing friction between Paris and the island's main separatist party.

Plant blast

Bath (AP) — An explosion at a chemical plant in this Pennsylvania town killed one person, injured 14 and forced the evacuation of nearby residents because of an environmental threat, authorities said.

Soldier shot

Athens (AP) — A Greek soldier on patrol at the Turkish border was shot in the leg by a bullet fired from across the river dividing the two countries.

Claim rejected

Bhopal (Reuters) — The Indian Government rejected Union Carbide Corporation's claim that sabotage caused the 1984 gas leak at its pesticides plant here.

Fishing strike

Reykjavik (Reuters) — Strikers by fishermen and other seamen in Iceland threaten to halt the island's vital exports of fish, officials said.

Bush refined

Vice President George Bush has been fined 25 cents by an eighth-grade English class in New York for bad grammar. His reply to an earlier fine included two mistakes, one a misspelling of "grammar".

ENTERTAINMENTS

CONCERTS

BARBARA HALLS CONCERTS: 7.30pm. The Beatles. 7.30pm. The Beatles. 7.30pm. The Beatles. 7.30pm. The Beatles.

OPERA & BALLET

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL: 7.30pm. The Beatles. 7.30pm. The Beatles. 7.30pm. The Beatles. 7.30pm. The Beatles.

THEATRES

AMERICAN THEATRE: 7.30pm. The Beatles. 7.30pm. The Beatles. 7.30pm. The Beatles. 7.30pm. The Beatles.

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THE ARTS

Setting an odd example

At an unconsciously early hour of yesterday morning, *Crickle: The Peril Challenge* (BBC2) showed the England speaker Chris Broad trying to get out caught behind off a ball he did not touch. This was the second time it has happened to him this week against the same opponents.

One wonders not that the Pakistanis appealed, nor that they should have persisted in their appeal to the point of stampeding the umpire into a clearly nonsensical decision, but the fact that they did this in front of a live television audience of millions suggests that they do not believe in the slow-motion replay. It was a highly quizzical example to set the video generation.

TELEVISION

Two of the 15 new series that opened yesterday also provided dubious role-models. *Treasure Houses* (BBC1) returned with the egotistical Mark Curry petting captive wildlife in London Zoo and delivering a sketchy account of that institution's history. When I grow up, I think on the whole I will not want to appear on television in creative designer's spectacles and exotic trousers, nor address my fellow creatures in the *River* Peter idiosyncrasy of perky clichés in Vaseline.

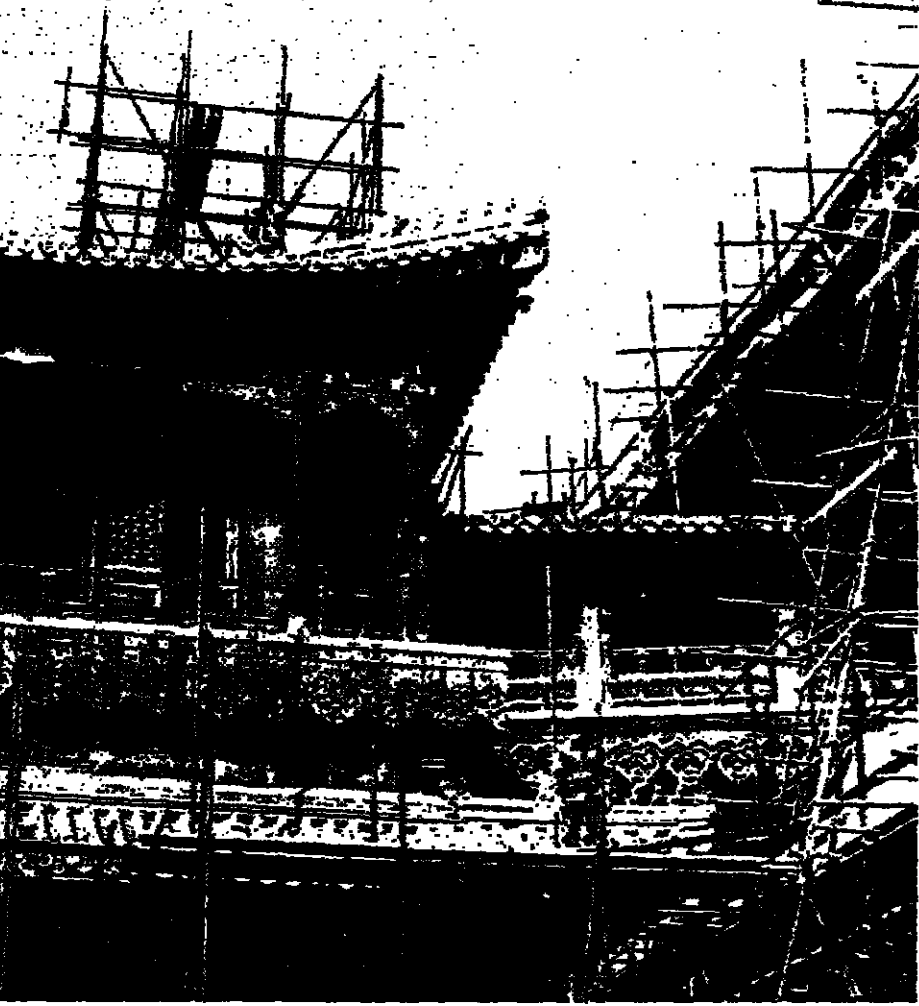
Filthy, Rich and Cretin (BBC2) signals Ben Elton's debut as a writer of situation comedy. For some time now, Mr Elton has been quite the most engaging stand-up comic this side of the Atlantic. His routines snap and gong at both the shabby pretensions of modern life and the half-baked commentators who seek to satirize them: the best thing about this new series is the script's constant strand of barbed wit. *Yellow* from Jimmy Tarbuck upwards.

The worst thing about it is its reliance for effect on Rik Mayall and Adrian Edmondson roaring at each other as though contesting the Elton John Strained Larynx Challenge Trophy. Playing the roles of, respectively, a conceited, low-rent showbiz personality and his deranged minder, these two veterans of *The Young Ones* killed four million and swapped better with *Barbarians at the Gate*. It took Nigel Planer's notably scuzzy agent to inject some welcome acid into all this: "No matter how many millions you kill, it'll never become fashionable."

Martin Cropper

Sparkling lure for the tourists

Student unrest may be a current sign of China's move away from political extremism, but a healthier one is the new enthusiasm for restoring monuments and historic buildings: Nigel McGilchrist reports from Peking



The Lama Temple under restoration, cruelly revealing the contrast of old and new technique

they attract tourists, who bring foreign exchange. Most tourists are not impressed by tatty monuments, because they like to see glimmer and sparkle when they climb out of the bus.

All the problems mentioned so far which affect the conservation of China's works of art come together in this last issue. Precious money can be justified for conservation because it attracts tourism. Speed and economy are important. Therefore, the most successful policy to pursue is to repaint everything, with easily applied industrial paint, and to regild with the easiest substitute for gold leaf — emulsified gold-dust. This quickly makes things look spruce, which pleases the tourists, and is doing things afloat, which pleases the Eastern way of thinking.

The most famous of China's monuments, the Forbidden

City in Peking, is an example of this thinking. Its exquisite forms and spaces remain the same as ever, and of unparalleled grace and beauty. The restoring team there is painstakingly replacing the wood where necessary with great precision; but the surface, with its once deep matt glow of red tempera, now gleams with a polyvinyl finish, whose combination with the new gold substitute gives the impression in places of the interior of a Chinese restaurant.

Most dire of all is the case of the Lama Temple in Peking, which is at the moment under restoration, and where the old and the new techniques can be seen side by side, with all that this reveals. During a meeting with two restorers who worked in the

Forbidden City, I happened to mention how there had been experimentation in Rome once again with the ancient recipe of chalk and milk, recorded by Pliny, for the safe, superficial treatment of ancient stonework and marble, after the often disastrous consequences of using chemical consolidants and cleaning agents. They smiled at this example of the quaint backwardness of the West in China, by contrast, deteriorated decorative stonework is thrown away and replaced by new stone, faithfully reproduced, and without any tinsome patina. (Shades of the tragedy of the replaced outer tympanum at Vézelay.)

All through history the Chinese have been replacing rather than conserving. Now is this true just of China. In the comparatively much richer city of Bangkok, old materials

are replaced the moment they show the merest sign of ageing or of patination. Why should these cultures now adopt a new and foreign (i.e. Western) way of thinking about their monuments? Why should we expect them to share our aesthetics?

The next day, however, I had the opportunity to meet Madame Wang, director of the Advisory Restoration Institute of the People's Republic's Cultural Relics Bureau (something like our Ministry of Works). We exchanged words through an interpreter over countless cups of tea, under what seemed like a 17-watt bulb, in a room so delightfully decrepit that it could have been a university JCR. But Mme Wang radiated a love of her subject, knew everything about it, was acquainted with Cennino Cennini's 15th-century treatise on Italian painting techniques, and combined technical knowledge and human wisdom in a way that only an Eastern soul can.

Yes, she understood, even shared, my reservations about the shortcomings of the Forbidden City restoration policy, with which she was not involved. But she explained the difficulties: Chinese history possessed no Pliny or Cennini to tell them about ancient methods, and what few documents ever existed with old pigment recipes largely disappeared in the Cultural Revolution; it was difficult and expensive, furthermore, to obtain the original pigments used in the sumptuous ceramic tiles which roof the Forbidden City. When she talked about the work she was involved with, however, it was clear that China's treasures would be in safe hands (surer even than many in the West) so long as she, and those who thought like her, were consulted.

Looking at monuments and works of art in China is, in every way, a strange and moving experience, quite unlike seeing things in the cosseted West — not only because it behoves us, in face of them, to review our values and our aesthetics, something which is always good for our complacency, but also because they are seen against a wholly different sort of background. Enlaid in the extraordinary context of modern China, a religious and plebeian, the monuments, in particular in the remotest corners of China's provinces, are like magnificent and inspiring white elephants. Nowhere else in the world, it seems, can great monuments speak to us so powerfully, and yet nowhere else does the question "what ever was it all for?" present itself so insistently.

Growing into new finery

Hilary Finch introduces Poland's new orchestra, which comes to Britain on Saturday

Memorabilia: "Liberated"



Anyone familiar with the phoenix that is Warsaw's Old Town will know that for the Poles rebuilding is both a skill and an obsession. They have recently turned their attention to the superstructure of an orchestra: the Warsaw Sinfonia, built up within the last three years from the foundations of the Polish Chamber Orchestra, has just given its inaugural concert on home ground and set off this week with Sir Yehudi Menuhin for their first world tour. On Saturday they land in London for their first concert at the Barbican.

Menuhin signed his contract as their principal guest conductor two years ago on a plane from Cracow to Warsaw. He had been invited by Jerzy Maksymiuk to conduct an enlarged Polish Chamber Orchestra: with his adoption as its godfather, the Sinfonia Varsovia (as it is called outside England and the States) was christened. This tour — 12 European concerts in 12 days, then three weeks in the States — seals its identity.

For Franciszek Wybranczyk, the orchestra's managing director, the expansion was essential to their artistic progress. The 24 string players of the PCO needed, as it were, new clothes to grow into. Wybranczyk auditioned young brass and woodwind players from ensembles in Katowice, Cracow and Warsaw itself, and recruited the forces necessary for a full Haydn/Mozart orchestra.

For Menuhin, at 70, the appointment has been like a shot of multivitamins. Liberated, as he puts it, from a fingerboard in which space is measured in millimetres, he now has what is more or less virgin territory to explore, and he is doing so indefatigably. Ten years of vigorous core training under Maksymiuk and Jerzy Swoboda has made the string section a sensitized palette which reacts instantaneously to the minutest suggestion or modification. Speed for them is a question of response, which in turn translates into tempo. "One of the most common misinterpretations," Menuhin noted, "during the performance of Mozart's Symphony No 40, 'is to open it *Allegro moderato* instead of *Allegro molto*," and that atti-

tude is certainly music to this orchestra's ears.

So it was that the opening bars of the G minor Symphony were nudged into shape in Warsaw's National Philharmonic Hall little more than an hour after our plane had landed, and even as the details of a contract for its recording were being finalized. The next morning, the hall was unheated; the plea for "a little more sun" as the movement edged its way towards the major was met with a tingling thaw; the red recording light for the repeated takes went on and off and on again until six in the evening.

The trick was to keep the imagination refreshed. For the skittering string descent at the start of Schubert's Fifth Symphony, Menuhin would suggest: "no accent at all — just *pianissimo*, then even *diminuendo* if that's possible... like a bird landing, you know." He works very much as a repetiteur with a singer. If tempo has to be slowed, it is more likely to happen through a rapid relaxation of breath within a cluster of notes than by a conscious rallentando; the woodwind, for their part, have to be alert to take their cues from the mercurial activity of gut on wood.

In every second between recording sessions and rehearsals for Sunday's inaugural concert came comments for the Press ("all I can say is that, whenever people are listening to music with devotion and love, they are better for that moment"); interviews, autographing, photographing.

Sunday night arrived with every aisle of the National Philharmonic filled beyond the reach of fire regulations. Menuhin and Jan Stanienda, the orchestra's leader, played Bach's Double Violin Concerto; Grazyna Bacewicz's Concerto for String Orchestra, "to be played tomorrow" was well and truly limbered up; a young conservatoire student who had slipped in at the last minute was heard to whisper after the K550 "he conducts not only the music: he conducts my heart as well".

● The Warsaw Sinfonia play at Shrewsbury School on Sunday and Warwick Arts Centre on Monday.

Amazing clarity

James R. Oestreich hears encouraging signs of the legendary acoustics in New York's Carnegie Hall after its extensive renovation

To at least some of the questions raised by the glittering and often glaring gala that reopened Carnegie Hall after seven months of renovation, events have provided reassuring answers. It may have become a slightly different hall to the ear (as it surely has to the eye), but it remains a very fine acoustical setting.

The second day brought two performances. The first was to have been an afternoon recital of Chopin by Daniel Barenboim, but the pianist was taken sick less than five hours before the scheduled start. As luck would have it, the violinist Izak Perlman was able to fill in, accompanied by Jonathan Feldman. It was an intimate chamber sound was never the sort of thing that had displayed the large auditorium's acoustical effects. One kept wishing in the Brahms D minor Sonata that Feldman, ever polite, would let loose a bit. As it was, one was struck, midway back in the stalls, by the brightness of the violin sound and a slight echo.

But the evening concert finally made one feel at home. Under Michael Tilson Thomas, the St Luke's Chamber Orchestra, which has lately served as something of a house band in Carnegie, gave evidence of becoming a crack ensemble in performances of Mozart's "Paris" Symphony, Beethoven's "Eroica," and Mahler's Ruckert Lieder (with Marilyn Horne). The wonderfully precise and vigorous playing was projected, even to the rear of the parquet under the first tier, with astonishing focus, clarity and solidity. This only confirmed one's suspicions that the sprawling,

garish sounds of the previous night were more a function of Zubin Mehta's New York Philharmonic than of the hall.

And, as if to drive that point home, later in the week the Boston Symphony Orchestra took up the work whose finale Mehta had mauled, Mahler's "Resurrection" Symphony, and restored its sublime eloquence (with Edith Wiens, Maureen Forrester and the Tanglewood Festival Chorus). Seiji Ozawa, taking unburied tempo, gave a performance of sustained intensity, holding the dynamics in check until the major climaxes. There are, of course, other and more impassioned ways to perform this music (as we shall hear from Leonard Bernstein in the spring), but seldom has the rise to the peroration seemed so eminently well thought out and so inescapable.

Here one became encouraged at the prospect of an actual improvement in sound. The acousticians had held this up as a possibility, resulting from the repair of holes in the acoustical shell above the stage. The greatest effect would be upon early reflections in the front stalls, and indeed the sound seemed to have greater impact there than one recalls from anywhere in the house except the front of the top balcony. Alas, there also seemed again a faint echo at times, though this could merely have resulted from slight imprecisions in ensemble, magnified by the awkward perspective of seats far to the left.

These matters are heavily subjective, of course, and the memories of even seven months ago seem suddenly dim alongside this bright new reality. And bright is the operative word. On the whole, the sound seems more brilliant, with less of the old hall's blanketing warmth, perhaps a product of its "defects". To judge from the early results one suspects that it will prove far less forgiving of all manner of performance inadequacies and continue to reward superior execution.



Nicola Katrak, lively enough but lacking depth as Swanilda

DANCE

Coppelia Sadler's Wells

We are often told that the standard of ballet technique has risen over the years. If you take an average, that is true, but the rise in minimum standards has not been matched among leading dancers. This season Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet can put out no fewer than seven women and six men for the dancing leads in *Coppelia*. That would have been unthinkable in the early days, but are any of them better than, or even as good as, the smaller but very distinguished group who appeared 35 years ago?

In these democratic days, it is still good to see a dancer such as Iain Webb as Franz, a role he has not played before in London. He is a personable young man with a natural elegance and a feeling for romanticism. All the same, it

was a surprise to see how much more punch he has put into his solo dancing this season. Could this be the result of his taking classes with the Bolshoi Ballet during the summer? He showed more zip in all his bravura steps, especially the jumps which took off with a stirring force and soared lightly through the air. Nicola Katrak, who played Swanilda, is a likeable, lively dancer, but she has not deepened her interpretation with experience. It is all rather superficial, even to the point that her smiles are for the audience, not her partner, during the duet that celebrates their wedding.

Stephen Wicks plays Dr Coppelia as a cartoon character, with a long, lugubriously mobile face and a big, stiff, shambling body, but it is a character from a good cartoon. Incidentally, why do almost all productions, including this one, make Coppelia tell an obvious lie about Swanilda breaking his dolls? All she broke was his heart.

John Percival

Thumb through an anthology of 20th-century poetry and you will find Sassoon (if you find him at all, which you will not in the *Faber Book of Modern Verse* I grew up on) represented by verses celebrating country life. They will contain phrases that linger a while in the mind, but it is only his other verse, the Great War poetry, that does not let you go. Living on for 50 years after the Armistice, what this stricken, haunted man contrived to do with his unrepentantly long lease of life is not included by Peter Barkworth in the one-man show he has been touring since last July. "This story ends in 1919," he writes in a programme note.

For 20 of the years that followed Sassoon wrote autobiographies, real and fictional, tracing a life that began in a landscape of Western fields and which probably did reach an essential finality on the

A sort of calm

THEATRE

Siegfried Sassoon Hampstead

battefields of France. Barkworth draws on these books, some letters and a dozen or so of the poems to retrace that same course. His stage contains only some well-worn wooden furniture: a bench, some stools, a table scattered with papers. He makes no attempt at a physical impersonation — and it is hard to see how he might set about doing so, since Sassoon's exotically Jewish features would need someone like the young Max Adrian.

Choosing to precede the Ravel with David Matthews' Piano Trio also tended to encourage mellow playing, for this 1979 work is a pastoral rather than a dramatic effort, best in the elegiac C minor unisons of the first movement, or the solemn if lyrical counterpoints of the third. One felt, however, that the second movement — a scherzo — had possibilities for Bartókian spikiness and drive that could have been more energetically pursued. The piece certainly needs a dash of vigour in the middle: its finale evokes Vaughan Williams at his most serenely soporific.

Caroline Dearnley may not have presented quite so polished a technical front, nor so austere a timbre, but her playing in Bartók's Rhapsody No 1 and Kodály's Duo Sonata had an adventure and a grasp of idiom and rhetoric that provided more than ample compensation. Occasionally James Lisney's accomplished keyboard work overpowered her, but in general they made a lively and intelligent duo.

By herself Dearnley played Four Pieces — none more than three minutes long — by the Hungarian composer Lajos Papp. Explosive and expressionist, full of bold colouristic devices, these miniatures were attacked with verve and infectious enthusiasm.

Richard Morrison

the evening is affected by its brevity. We are also given passages of a neat, impish humour, and no doubt the experience of a six-month tour has shown when an audience welcomes laughter.

But, by drawing only upon Sassoon's words, the man is presented as more in control of himself than other witnesses (e.g. Robert Graves) indicate. When he goes into the trenches the pleasant tone of voice Barkworth continues to use for several minutes leaves the puzzled feeling that comes after turning over two pages at once. Yet if there are, inevitably, gaps in the story (what was he up to before the war?) the elements are intensely moving, and at the end, as one last poem brings the evening to an almost tranquil close, everyone suddenly bursts into clapping.

Jeremy Kingston

CONCERTS

Park Lane Group Purcell Room

The absence through illness of the guitarist James Woodrow forced the withdrawal of important works by Tippett, Carter, Gerhild and Takemitsu from this second pair of PLG recitals. It says something for the richness of the programming throughout the "Young Artists and 20th-Century Music" week that the evening still had its stimulations.

There was a fascination, for instance, in observing contrasts in method and temperament between the Elysian Piano Trio and the cello/piano duo of Caroline Dearnley and James Lisney. The Elysians are well-organized performers, highly reliable in intonation and ensemble, and possessing (in the violinist Helen Rangley and the cellist Theodore Ulrich) string players who can muster big, lush tone.

This last quality was well suited to Ravel's Trio, although it was not until the last movement that the emotional temperature increased beyond the lukewarm perhaps it is nerves that inhibited the players from giving full vent to their personalities earlier, or from accentuating the witty contrasts of the "Pantomime".

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JONATHAN DAVIES

Enter Jonathan Davies, who does without surgery, who plays the game almost classically, obeying no plan other than his instinct, whose speed of foot and mind have not been seen in the valleys for many a long year. The comparisons are with George Best, Alex Higgins and Ian Botham, sportsmen who have the capacity to play their game with a brilliance and originality that defies rational analysis and engenders thoughts of witchcraft. It is no accident that the three among whom he revels happily, he has not yet learnt their ways of character.

It is almost heretical to suggest that Davies has weaknesses in his play, but Bennett is not alone in questioning his tactical kicking accuracy. "He spends so much time running, he just hasn't had the chance to develop his kicking."



Thomas has reason to praise his young recruit. Since coming to Neath in 1982, Davies has galvanized a good team into a brilliant one, bidding for all the club honours this season and playing

The deity himself is charmingly immodest about his abilities, even accepting the label of arrogance. "You've got to be arrogant when you play fly-half. I try to show people who's best on the field. It's all psychological. If you're a bit arrogant the opposing forwards want to knock your block off and they forget to play properly."

Davies is a true child of the valleys, born in Trimsaran, a village not far from Llanelli, the son of a British Steel worker who played rugby for Swansea. His father, who died when Jonathan was 14, took him to matches and instilled in him a deep love of the sport; the teacher at the local primary school encouraged his young pupil always to run with the ball and not to kick. Davies still

Making him captain may be the only way of keeping him in Wales. Inevitably, he is being courted by Rugby League clubs and has already received offers far in excess of any made before. He doesn't talk about it, but the temptation must be strong. The days are happily gone when a player who crossed to the other side was regarded as a traitor to Wales and punished by ostracism; but his nation will find it difficult to cope with their bereavement. It is bad enough to lose a good player. It is far worse to find a god and see him working his miracles for someone else.

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great, but
research proves
that space is no
place to fall ill

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Keith Hindley

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For Prince Edward, the Queen's youngest son, who sometimes seemed more at home on the stage than in a slitting trench, the effort has apparently become too much. Yesterday, according to Buckingham Palace, he was returning to the Commando Training Centre on the banks of the River Exe at Lymington in Devon to "consider his



The history of the Royal Marines is long and distinguished, dating from 1664, which makes it one of the country's oldest military organizations. Its motto is *Per Mare et Per Terram*.

than the physical demands that prove too much. They have to make their beds, clean boots, wash socks, press shirts and trousers and clean rifles in the knowledge that any blem-

Peter Davenport

ACROSS

DOWN

1 Tiff (4)
2 Defiant (5)
3 Book plot (5,4)
5 Fire-shed (5)
6 Wise saying (7)
7 Nailed state (6)
8 Kabuki scene (11)

14 Snow slide (5)
13 Palestinian (5)
15 Mourning (5)
16 Bring leg (5)

SOLUTION TO NO. 11

ACROSS: 1 Ostrich, 2 Sled, 3 Yurt, 4
bus, 13 Liza, 15 Can, 16 Tiff, 17
bus, 23 Rags, 24 Balm, 25 Tiff, 26
Yurt.

DOWN: 1 Ostrich, 2 Ostrich, 3 M
bus, 4 Yurt, 5 Tiff, 6 Tiff, 7
Gaz, 72 Rags.

[illegible]

Writers' Monthly
London N22

BOOKS

Ecumenical sponge

Hans Küng is a theologian in an especial sense — he is a popular one, a "best seller", who has made a point of addressing the laity rather than other scholars. Of course the circumstances were once propitious. He emerged into prominence at the time Pope John XXIII was introducing a measure of intellectual freedom into the Roman Catholic Church. It could be said, in fact, that the aim of all his work has been to redefine Catholicism by changing its relation to other creeds: his dissertation was on Sartre's atheism; and Küng, a particular admirer of the Protestant theologian Karl Barth, was eager to begin what was then called a "dialogue" with the other Christian denominations. But he did so at his own risk. His "empirical theology" led directly to a dossier on his activities being compiled by the unimpeachable Holy Office; and in 1979 he was denied the title of "Catholic theologian".

Not that this seems to have made any difference, however; and in this latest volume Küng continues his ecumenical drive towards alien faiths. His title summarises its theme — three experts describe the special nature of Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism; and in turn Küng comments upon their statements with a number of "Christian Responses". He deals with such topics as the nature of myth, the problems of mystical experience, and the limits of textual criticism; but his real purpose, a much larger one, is best defined in his own words. He sees, in this half of the 20th century, "an interdependence of religions, with every possible kind of convergence and divergence." It is the convergence that really interests him, however; and he suggests that these various faiths, by uncovering similarities of worship or of doctrine, may re-emerge in a "tension-rich synthesis... a dialectical transcending of conflicts through inner mediation." He suggests, for example, the possibility of a "synthesis between Jesus and Muhammad", a feat more likely to occur since Küng seems implicitly to discount the doctrine of the Incarnation.

To the non-religious or even the irreligious this may sound a laudable aim; but those who have an especial attachment to either Islam or Christianity may find it a somewhat disconcerting prospect. Küng's position is marked by a series of rhetorical statements, each one prefaced with a rather wistful "If only" — if only Buddhists would understand the Christian concept of selfhood, if only the Hindu doctrine of reincarnation could be transformed into something less physical, if only Christians better understood the concept of "learned ignorance", and so on.

When this exercise is completed, specific doctrines are replaced by very generalized statements, which are at best merely conciliatory, and at worst highly misleading.

What all these religions share, it seems, is a belief in "ultimate meaning", a trust in "the One that undergirds all worldly reality". Almost anyone on the planet might be persuaded that this is indeed the case, but such universal formulations hardly seem enough to efface two thousand years of separate development. As one of Küng's interlocutors, in one of this book's rare moments of common sense, puts it: "I am afraid that an approach so bent on assimilation does not always facilitate understanding."

CHRISTIANITY AND THE WORLD RELIGIONS

By Hans Küng
Collins, £20.00

But it is by these means, of course, that Küng is able to project his vision of "global ecumenical consciousness" — a ghastly phrase — and there are times when his benevolent clichés remind one of the worst moments of "Thought for the Day". But even if by some miracle (although it is by no means clear that Küng believes in miracles) this global consciousness were to be arranged, what would it mean in practice? It seems possible, after all, that the more defined or exclusive the religious sensibility, the more that sensibility flourishes to worship some amorphous deity, some shared Oneness with a variety

of prophets, is equivalent to worshipping no deity at all. This global consciousness could turn out to be the ecumenical equivalent of airline food — acceptable to all but palatable to none. No doubt it is noble to emphasize, as Küng does, that Christianity is not "superior" to any other religion; but that happy confession may be just another forerunner of decay.

There are times, indeed, when this book seems to lose touch with the actual religious experience of those who profess their various faiths, and its somewhat abstract tone suggests that Küng's understanding is fundamentally an organizational one. Of course he knows that the Buddhist and Hindu faiths are not organized in any explicit manner, and yet the whole thrust of his analysis is towards some institutional change of heart.

His is the approach of a mid-century Western European; and, since Küng is Swiss, it is appropriate to detect a tinge of the nation's neutrality in his religious relativism. Certainly his theological en-

quiries seem to be part of the present impetus towards global homogeneity — on the grounds that, if the people of the earth are now indistinguishable in terms of their dress, their technology, and their popular entertainment, they might as well share the same religion too. This is very liberal, and may be very enlightened as well, but the faiths he wishes to understand seem actively to be working against him.

The Ayatollah Khomeini can hardly be considered a devotee of ecumenism, and at one point Küng obliquely attacks the direction in which the Roman Catholic Church itself has travelled during the reign of Pope John Paul II. He speaks of a "medieval... anti-modern paradigm" that is developing in place of the freedom that the Second Vatican Council seemed to offer. But is that not precisely because the present Pope sees the trap that Küng's liberalism and enlightened ecumenism offer? It has often been said that Hans Küng is a theologian "of his time". But it may also be the case that he is imprisoned by his time — a time which is now passing.

Mother of Lolita

NOVEL of the week

Victoria Glendinning

THE ENCHANTER
By Vladimir Nabokov
Picador, £8.95

Nabokov called *The Enchanter* "the first little throb" of *Lolita*. It was written in Russian in 1939 when he was living in France, the setting of this story. The next year he left for the United States, and when he came to write *Lolita* in the 1950s he thought the earlier manuscript had been destroyed. Later he found it, and planned to publish it but not until now has his son Dmitri translated this "long lost novel" — which is a pretty short story, only 75 pages. Nabokov appends a further 28 pages of explanation, debunking various "sane hypotheses" about his father's opus.

He stresses that his father was "not indifferent" to the horror of child molestation. The battle for *Lolita* was won a generation ago; but reassurances are still necessary. The sexual charge packed by *The Enchanter* is greater than that of his tragicomic masterpiece, *The Invincible*, and wholly innocent. Nabokov is capable of worship. He adores the baby-flesh of his victim.

His sexual intentions are brutally explicit, in so far as Nabokov's glancing surrealist

at her apparently respectable suitor with "two eyes and a war". When he makes off with the child there is no fugue and no pursuit, just a single nightmarish episode in a hotel bedroom.

This climax is postponed by the goonish fact that, having left the child sleeping, he cannot remember their room number. His stumblings around the hotel are a touch of genius, marrying horror to farce. This ambiguity pervades the whole piece: the monster is capable of worship. He adores the baby-flesh of his victim.

His sexual intentions are brutally explicit, in so far as Nabokov's glancing surrealist

ism is ever explicit. The "enchanter" never dwells for longer than a few image-filled phrases on his gross purpose before skittering obliquely away into distorted perceptions of the real world, mixed with mauling fancies of "constant" merriment, pranks, morning kisses, tussles in the shared bed. Maybe it's because we've been told so much recently about the prevalence of child abuse that *The Enchanter* is so disturbing; and all the more so because of its glamour as literature. It's not only a feat of empathy; it's a short, sustained burst of dazzling writing.

Lolita was all about America as well as about Humbert and his nymph. *The Enchanter* is about our own Old World culture. The title itself has a fairy-story resonance. The madman says the girl is his "little Cordelia", she is his Red Riding Hood, she is Alice in Wonderland. His dream of bliss is "just the two of us in an eternal nursery". The nursery is a perilous place, as art and folklore have told the children, however much we tried to fool ourselves, and them, that it was safe.

Everywoman of the 1980s

FICTION

Isabel Raphael

MARYA
By Joyce Carol Oates
Cape, £10.95

RICHARD ROBERTOVICH
By Mark Frankland
John Murray, £9.95

ALL GOOD MEN
By Janet Daley
Chato & Windus, £9.95

Two years ago my New Year batch of novels was so depressing that I refused to put in a review; so it is a pleasure to start 1987 with three that I have positively enjoyed. In *Marya* Joyce Carol Oates is at the top of her form. She traces the story of a girl from nowhere (a decaying mining settlement peopled by shiftless immigrants hardly being an auspicious start in life) who claws her way up into the intellectual world of American academe. By the time she is eight years old, when she is orphaned and abandoned, Marya has learned to protect herself from pain by becoming an observer. The first lesson comes early from her mother: don't cry. "Once you get started you can't stop. So you kids don't start — hear me?"

From the beginning Marya uses her sharp intelligence to find reasons to stem the flood which might otherwise overwhelm her with unbearable emotion; but in doing so she isolates herself from the warmth of straightforward human relationships. She notes everything and everyone around her, but remains blind to her own effect upon them. She is astonished to find that she is considered critical: "I'm not criticizing anything," she protests in surprise. "I'm just pointing out what's wrong..."

Ordinary feelings of anger, jealousy, and fear are frozen out, leaving Marya free to concentrate on scholarships which lead to success and fortune. Ever-conscious that others may be judging her as she judges them, she cannot relate casually to a wide circle of friends, but moves through a series of passionate individual relationships. She is shrewd enough to know that something is missing, and searches for it as intensely as she does everything else, starting with an adolescent flirtation with a Catholic priest. The book leaves her, at 36, on the brink of a discovery the effect of which Marya cannot calculate.

Marya is Everywoman of the 1980s, superior in intellect, and an enviable achiever in worldly terms, but beneath the veneer a mass of contradictions and insecurities. Joyce Carol Oates writes of her heroine — for that is what Marya rightly is — with understanding and sympathy, but also with devastating honesty. There is no place here for flattery, or the deception that emanates from the eye of love: not, at least, until Marya herself is ready to accept it and acknowledge her need. "For what is a man, after all, if he loses his own soul?"

In terms of political rather than religious faith, this is a lesson too well taken to heart by Richard Southwell, who

embraces the patronymic "Robertovich" together with every other possible aspect of Russian life. He moves to Moscow in 1958 to work on an English-Russian dictionary, bringing with him a wife initially as idealistic as he, and two children to be brought up in a brave new world of brotherhood and understanding. Richard's total commitment to believing what his Russian friends recognize as a delusion — that Russians are just like everyone else — alienates his family, who leave him to find out for himself what it is like to be told "Nyetzka. Not allowed."

Mark Frankland is wonderfully good at evoking places. Like the setting of his previous novel, *Saigon*, Moscow itself is a real character, every bit as

vivid as Richard, whose stubborn narrowness rings true only in the brilliantly detailed context of the city whose life-style he shares. Russia pervades the rather distracting format — letters, diaries, private papers — appropriately imposing unity and control for possession and power are the true themes of this moving and interesting book.

All *Good Men* is a very clever first novel, a kind of Posh Simmonds cartoon etched in acid. The plot deals with politics and murder, but really the book is a merciless expose of contemporary city mores. Not a nuance of North London life escapes Janet Daley's gimlet eye and sharpened pencil, and it is hard to believe that these are fictional characters and events that are reported with such cool accuracy. The early chapters struck me as very brittle, and it was endearing to feel the author warming to her creations, as authentic pressures exposed their private lives and feelings. The style improves after the departure of one particular character, who jerks about like a demented puppet and strains credibility more than a little. But the clichés drop out as the action gathers pace, and, like all good cautionary tales, this one makes the reader laugh as well as look wryly in the mirror so clearly held up.



Star Wars cancer

William Jackson

THE NEW MAGNOT LINE
By Jon Connell
Secker & Warburg, £12.95

This is a book that had to be written. It has an apt and compelling theme. Reagan's Star Wars would lead to a new-style Magnot Line in the 21st Century, with the same dire consequences that the original version had for France in 1940. But, thank goodness, it has been written by a journalist, and not by a defence technocrat.

It is not just the Star Wars concept that is at fault, but the whole American approach to war. Like the French in the 1930s, they are obsessed with high-tech as a means of redressing the numerical inferiority of the West. Few have ever been won this way; many more have been lost. Building the Magnot Line drained France both morally and materially, and confirmed that Napoleon's dictum that the relative importance of morale to material is three to one.

Gaining the technological edge over potential enemies is, of course, always a help, provided it does not lead to the vicious circle of cost inflation, diminishing returns, and bankruptcy. In the armament world the dangers are all the greater because of the close relationship between over-optimism and unreliability of equipment. Jon Connell's catalogue of US weapon systems that have cost billions but just do not work under battlefield conditions, makes depressing reading, as does his analysis of recent US military failures in Vietnam, Iran, and Grenada.

Even more worrying is the state of the US military procurement organization, which he describes so graphically. Eisenhower's warning in his valedictory speech about the virulence of the "Military Industrial Complex" is coming true in the favourable military environment of the Reagan era. It is an intricate virus, which overwhelms the

antibodies in the American body politic.

The Star Wars concept has all the symptoms of a really vicious attack of the disease. It is sensible to probe the possibility of the pendulum swinging back in favour of defensive systems so that the Soviets do not steal a march on the West. What is wrong is the exaggeration to which the Reagan Administration has had to resort in order to win Congressional funding. The most that can be envisaged, at present, is the creation of a defensive shield over the US missile silos. Centres of population on both sides of the Atlantic would not be protected, just as the Magnot Line did not cover more than the most vulnerable sector of the French frontier, at crippling cost. Moreover, the Soviets are given ample grounds for suspecting that the real intention is, in fact, to push the pendulum further towards the offensive end of the spectrum of war. The power generated in space to destroy missiles rising from their silos could also be used to incinerate cities.

For most of us, who find the Star Wars arguments baffling, Jon Connell's two chapters on the subject are revealing. They give his diagnosis of American Magnotitis a telling validity. But his abilities as a diagnostician are not matched by his capabilities as a physician. The therapy he suggests in his conclusion has a naive ring about it. All we can hope is that the disease is indeed a passing fever, and will not develop into incurable cancer.

Ted Hughes once confessed — in *Poetry in the Making* (1967), a collection of talks for children that includes some interestingly unguarded autobiographical material — that he began writing poems in adolescence, when it dawned upon him that his earlier passion for hunting animals in his native Yorkshire ended either in the possession of a dead animal, or at best a trapped one. He wanted to capture not just live animals, but the aliveness of animals in their natural state: their wildness, their giddiness, the fox-ness of the fox and the crow-ness of the crow. The writing of poems became for him the making of verbal cages which might achieve this — or, rather, as in the not dissimilar case of D.H. Lawrence, the poem itself was intended to fit the quickness of the animal like another skin, a testament of language. This activity has led some of his critics to see Hughes as a nature poet, though it seems to me that he is really always after bigger and more mysterious game than that label would suggest, and such a famous piece as "The Thought-Fox", for example, is as much about the act of writing a poem as it is about the animal that provides the poem with its inspiration.

Porn among plants

POETRY
Robert Nye

No such awareness of complications need bother us in reading the Laureate's new book *Flowers and Insects* (Faber, £7.95). Here, brightened by handsome illustrations by Leonard Baskin, are 17 pretty straightforward rhapsodies in praise of bits and pieces of the natural world which have caught Mr. Hughes's attention. I don't think anyone could find this less than charming, though those with a pre-Rite-of-Spring approach to country matters may consider there is altogether too much about thrusting, dogs, and pollen in such a poem as "Samstruck Forgiveness". A little of this goes a long way, and it might be possible to wish that Mr. Hughes would write some

human erotica instead of forever finding pornography among the plants.

As you bend to touch
The gypsy girl
Who waits for you in the hedge
Her loose dress falls open...

All the same, I like the sly humour which surfaces here and there, most successfully in "Daffodils", where it seems that he attacks his own tendency to poetize and sexualize the poor flowers, and even accuses himself of prostituting them.

The results are too often banal for the book to be considered a success, and much of the verification is slipped or downright shoddy. I count all this a pity, since Ted Hughes has always struck me as a serious and authentic poet, restless in everything save his commitment to poetry, which is total and profound. No doubt he will survive even the strait-jacket of the Laureateship, though on the evidence of this little volume's retreat into mystery and puffing and general flower-bullying to find what are meant to look like postures of joy! it may be touch and go.

More of the Syme

Peter Jones

THE AUGUSTAN ARISTOCRACY
By Ronald Syme
Oxford, £40

no one else, and by fostering a personal coterie of advisers with whom real power lay (we are reminded of Louis XIV's court at Versailles). Third, he argued the importance of the propaganda war waged by Augustus through his literary friends like Maecenas, Horace, and Virgil. Romans were hopeless traditionalists. They needed to be convinced that nothing had changed with Augustus. The writers duly obliged.

What turned *The Roman Revolution* into an enduring masterpiece, which reads as freshly and excitingly today as it did 48 years ago, was the breadth of its vision and the breathtaking brilliance of the style. Here was a glittering, stately history with an effect as

precise, controlled, and deadly as the thrust of a Roman legionary's sword. Only one other had written history like this — Syme's hero, Tacitus.

What might have been seen as an end by others was for Syme merely a beginning. Since 1939, Syme's work on the careers of individuals and the fortunes of families has continued to pour out, and now *The Augustan Aristocracy*, written in his 84th year, presents afresh much of what has been done before, and tries to take it a step further. The problem with the Augustan period is that no sufficiently detailed account of it survives from antiquity. We must reconstruct what we can from extant sources, literary, historical, and inscriptional. Here Syme is masterful. His capacity to write information about percentage, career, and office from the driest fragmentary inscription and marry it with other material is legendary. *The Augustan Aristocracy* is the juice of the latest squeezing, individual by indi-

vidual, the fortunes of the old noble families are painstakingly traced.

It is true that, by the time of the Emperor Vespasian (70AD), there are hardly any of the great Republican families in positions of power. But the story is not one of continual decline. Syme is able to show how Augustus' treatment of the ancient nobles is not wholly without concessions.

It has to be said that this is scarcely a book for even the most dedicated general reader. The issues addressed are of hair-raising complexity, and the minute argumentation makes powerful demands upon the concentration. The style too does not help. Tacitean brevity and point have now known themselves into an almost Delphic perversion of language. Here one has a legitimate complaint. Others may complain of Syme's lack of theoretical underpinning, others of the narrowness of the investigation. But this grinding spadework has to be done, and foundations have to be laid. Foundations laid by Syme do not crumble.

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MR SAUNDERS AND THE CITY

For the time being the focus of the Guinness affair rests on Mr Ernest Saunders, chairman and chief executive of the brewing group, who (to the barely concealed delight of his enemies) is now paying the price of his exceptional ambitions. The public debate over whether a man who has been proved guilty of not a single misdemeanour should relinquish the two most important posts in a substantial British company is unusual, possibly unprecedented.

Like many forceful, opportunistic businessmen before him, Saunders deftly caught the tide that should have led on to glory. Yet he has caught the turning tide too — possibly with justice since his coup in snatching Distillers from a favoured son of Scotland now seems seriously flawed at least in its final stages.

The City can be notoriously forgiving when its grandees step out of line. But today the City is not in a forgiving mood. It knows that, just as the DTI inspectors are examining Guinness, so are the eyes of Whitehall's would-be regulators on the Square Mile as a whole.

Nor is Mr Saunders a grandee. He is a dynamic manager who has trodden hard on establishment toes. He had appeared to promise Scotland all that it could wish — the regeneration of its premier company as an international drinks group with the highly respected Edinburgh banker, Sir Thomas Risk, as its head and a headquarters in the nation's capital. His reputation of key parts of that deal (albeit with the backing of his

board) was seen as having the faint of arrogance about it. It was thought had enough that he proposed to ditch the chairman designate, but far worse that he proposed to assume the roles of chairman and chief executive himself, and that his salary would double in the process.

The embarrassment of the Bank of England as overseer of a self-regulating City was scarcely concealed. Solemn documentary undertakings to shareholders were being reversed within months. The major shareholders chose to go along with the proposals, though there was the greatest unease about so doing.

It has since been revealed that Saunders and his board invested \$100 million of shareholders' money in a speculative investment venture organised by the disgraced US arbitrageur Ivan Boesky. The latter escapade was revealed publicly by Guinness only after details emerged in the US.

It also emerged that a US associate of Distillers, with a major interest in its continuing spirits contracts under the company's new ownership, had breached the Companies Act by not declaring that it had built up a stake in Guinness of more than five per cent. Finally there were the allegations, as yet unproved, that Guinness and its advisers may well have fallen foul of the City's Takeover Code or the Companies Act through informal arrangements to support the Guinness share price during the final stages of the Distillers takeover battle. This seemingly endless

stream of revelations has taken a heavy toll of the Guinness share price and the confidence in its management. If the Guinness board believes that matters would be improved by Saunders stepping down from the chairmanship to concentrate on running the business as chief executive, he should be urged to do so.

As to wider issues, it is true that the Guinness affair has so far provided no sure evidence of a breakdown in the mechanisms of City self-regulation. The very existence of the DTI inquiry is proof of this. What it has shown is yet another glimpse of a world, once ruled by the spirit of *dixie* *meum* *pactum*, now ruled only by the letter of the law.

The guardian of the City's spirit in takeover matters is the Takeover Panel. Until a few years ago that Panel would have controlled share-buying like that of Distillers' US distributor. It dropped the attempt because it was too difficult. It should decide to try harder instead.

The Takeover Panel does not seem any longer to be the port of first call for many bidders who think they may be breaching the rules. They prefer their lawyers. The Panel needs to take a good look at itself, its powers and its authority.

Self-regulation will be strengthened if the examination of the Guinness affair can clarify a large number of pertinent issues relating to the conduct of takeovers. Without such self-examination, self-regulation risks ending up a bigger scalp for those who hate the City than that of Mr Saunders could ever be.

A QUESTION OF JUSTICE

An all-party delegation of MPs and peers saw Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, on Tuesday to raise with him three cases of possible wrongful conviction on charges relating to IRA bombings. The delegation — which included the former Labour Home Secretary, Mr Merlyn Rees, the independent peer, Lord Fitt, and the Labour spokesman on Home Affairs, Mr Clive Soley — is one further sign of growing public disquiet over the convictions obtained in the Birmingham and Guildford bombings and the Maguire explosives case.

In all three cases, convictions were obtained in an atmosphere of great and justified public indignation at terrible crimes. Five people had been killed and 65 injured by IRA bombs which exploded in two Guildford public houses, and a further 21 people killed and 162 injured by the Birmingham bombs. Neither police nor juries can be expected to be wholly immune to the intense public feeling on such occasions.

Whatever the cause, convictions were obtained on slight, indeed dubious, evidence. Four people were convicted of the Guildford bombings solely on the basis of their own confessions. They later retracted those confessions, but the jury accepted them as genuine nonetheless.

Two of those confessions, however, had implicated oth-

ers, including Mrs Annie Maguire, in the bombings. Since they insisted on their innocence and there was no other evidence against them, murder charges were dropped and three of them went free. But the Guildford confessions had also named Mrs Maguire as a bomb-maker. So the police, arriving at her house, arrested all the adults present and her teenage sons and took swabs of their hands. These swabs were subsequently found to show traces of nitro-glycerine. Mrs Maguire, her relatives and a family friend were then convicted of handling explosives and received a total of 73 years in prison.

The evidence at the Birmingham bombings trial was superficially stronger. Six men were convicted on the basis both of their own confessions, which they claimed had been extracted by intimidation and brutality, and of forensic evidence that they had recently handled nitro-glycerine.

It is generally recognised that new evidence is required to overturn the verdict of a jury. And in the Birmingham case, that requirement has been fulfilled by a former policeman who claims that he watched other policemen using violence and intimidation to obtain the confessions.

The evidence indicating the innocence of those in the Maguire and Guildford cases, though not technically new, is even stronger. A police search

of Mrs Maguire's supposed "bomb factory" revealed no evidence of it apart from the very dubious evidence of the swabs (since the nitro-glycerine of the swabs did not necessarily come from their hands). Police observation revealed nothing sinister. The Maguires and their relatives had no connection, except Irishness, with the IRA. They were never claimed by the IRA as members, they were indeed shunned by IRA prisoners in prison, and they have continued to protest their innocence, convincing such sceptical people as Lord Fitt, Cardinal Hume, Lord Devlin and Mr Robert Kee.

That means that the sole evidence against the Maguire household was the retracted confessions of two of the Guildford accused. Yet those confessions are undermined by the confessions of the IRA men from the Balcombe Street siege who admitted in persuasive detail to taking part in the Guildford bombings and who denied categorically that the Guildford four were involved. And if the Guildford four are innocent, so must be the Maguires.

It is difficult to believe that the juries would have convicted in these cases if this — and other — evidence had been before them. The Home Secretary should consider very seriously exercising the Royal prerogative and granting a pardon.

WHEN EAST MEETS EAST

Just as Moscow announces that it is preparing to agree a timetable for the withdrawal of its troops from Afghanistan, another hotbed of war has flared up. The border between Vietnam and China, which has been a source of contention for years, has seen one of its fiercest clashes since the upsurge in fighting eight years ago.

The timing of the latest engagements — around the eighth anniversary of the Vietnamese occupation of Cambodia — suggests that the Chinese may have wanted to stress to Vietnam that its presence in Cambodia was still as unacceptable as it was eight years ago. Then, China launched what it described as a punitive strike on northern Vietnam, ostensibly to "teach Vietnam a lesson". Border fighting has a habit of flaring up at times when Cambodia is in the focus of international attention.

China's sorties into northern Vietnam are also believed to have a strategic purpose: to divert Vietnamese attention from Cambodia and so reduce the pressure on anti-Vietnamese forces in Cambodia. This week's fighting can therefore be interpreted as perhaps presaging a new offensive by

the anti-Vietnamese coalition in Cambodia, whose nominal head — Prince Sihanouk — is backed by the Chinese.

Recent developments in both Vietnam and China, however, could give either a short-term interest in a brief engagement. Vietnam, pilloried for its presence in Cambodia, can use claims of Chinese aggression to present itself also as a victim — of its age-old enemy, the big power to the north. At a time when pressure is clearly on Vietnam (from the Soviet Union and others) to use its meagre resources more efficiently, and even to move towards a withdrawal from Cambodia, a demonstrable threat to its security would not come amiss.

In China, too, recent domestic events have produced a situation very similar to that which prevailed in 1979. Now, too, there is unrest in China and the leadership appears divided as to what should be done about it. More relaxed and tolerant the Chinese leadership of the late 1980s may be, but whether it can contemplate with equanimity signs of discontent among a younger generation which is becoming more numerous and

more demanding, is another matter.

Further, there are those in Peking who are already calling for more discipline (i.e. less decentralisation and less market economics) on the grounds that the stability of the country is at risk. Those same people may well see their interests represented by the Chinese military sector which is being reduced in strength and restructured. There was speculation in 1979 that one reason for China's venture into Vietnam was the desire of the military to demonstrate the inadequacy of its resources. Something similar could be said today.

For the moment, the Sino-Vietnamese hostilities look destined to remain local. But a deterioration of conditions in Vietnam or in China, or — unlikely though it seems at this time of Sino-Soviet rapprochement — a decision by Moscow that aid to Vietnam would be well spent keeping China at bay would make the picture more menacing. Only Vietnam's withdrawal from Cambodia will ensure longer-term peace. That should be next on the schedule of Moscow's foreign policy troubleshooters.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Aids, morals and taking care

From Mr John Pilgrim
Sir, While the results of *The Times* MORI poll (January 1) may provide evidence of greater security from Aids for the majority of the population and of changed attitudes to sexual behaviour in general as a result of Aids, it would be dangerous to assume that it provides any evidence of changed behaviour or reduced risk for the minority who are most in danger from the disease.

As with other diseases in which there is a strong social factor, there are likely to be a number of behavioural elements which contribute to the degree of risk experienced in sexual promiscuity or shared hypodermic syringes in drug-taking.

To be more sure of the relevance of the MORI poll findings one would in particular wish to see more intensive study carried out among the young urban population, with particular attention to factors possibly associated with sexual promiscuity and drug-taking, including homelessness and unemployment.

One would, moreover, wish to see any attitudinal or behavioural study correlated with voluntary screening for Aids, which should in any case be most easily available and its availability known to high-risk groups.

Perhaps the most important conclusion from the MORI poll is that most people know of the causes of Aids and react with common sense in seeking to avoid them. It is probable, on this evidence, that those at greatest risk of contracting or spreading Aids would, given sufficient knowledge and access, react with similar common sense in making use of a voluntary screening service.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN PILGRIM,
Old Bowlish House,
Bowlish,
Shepton Mallet, Somerset.

From Mr Patrick Duffy, MP for Sheffield, Attercliffe (Labour)
Sir, Whether the Government's campaign against Aids is effective remains to be seen, but the onus are not good. An adequate response is unlikely to be achieved by exhortations, warnings, advertising techniques or a generally utilitarian approach.

The current campaign against smoking and drugs points to the limitations of deterrence. Something else then is needed to reduce the DES, cancer, and I take this to be implicit in the findings of the MORI poll published in *The Times* today. "Fifty-eight per cent... said Britain would only avoid a major Aids epidemic if traditional family values were upheld".

I know that many parents in my Sheffield (Attercliffe) constituency feel a desperate need for a greater emphasis on such a pastoral approach; not with the view to arriving at moral judgments, but indicating moral choices. For they firmly believe that in the end Aids raises moral questions relating to the sanctity of the family and the renewed need for moral and religious teaching in our schools.

Odds-on chance

From Mr Peter Laws
Sir, In the 1920s my wife Stella, nee Blewett, was at the Church of England High School in Penzance, where she was a member of chapel choir. The choir mistress was fond of plain-song and each choir girl had a copy of Briggs and Frier's *Manual of Plain-song*.

Half a century on I purchased a bundle of old music that belonged to a deceased music mistress from St Peter's School, in Southwold, who at some time in her career had been at the school in Penzance.

Amongst the music was a *Manual of Plain-song*, and on the flyleaf was inscribed the name, Stella Blewett.

Yours sincerely,
PETER LAWS,
21 Liden Road,
Penzance, Cornwall.
January 5.

Ronald Biggs play

From Mr Colin Mackenzie
Sir, I should like to correct the impression created by your front-page article (December 24) that I had anything to do with informing Detective Chief Superintendent Jack Slipper, of Scotland Yard, about finding Ronald Biggs in Brazil "to produce a world exclusive" for the *Daily Express*. I was horrified at this decision by the *Express* and later resigned from the paper because of it.

For the record, Biggs had agreed to return to London with me to give himself up because he was tired of life on the run. The *Express*'s actions, coupled with those of the Yard, combined to alienate the Brazilian authorities to the extent that Biggs is now a free man in their country. I shed few tears over this.

Yours faithfully,
COLIN MACKENZIE,
31 The Little Boltons, SW10.

Penny wise

From Mr R. D. Wall
Sir, It is not good news that the coinage research team at Nottingham University is considering adding to the weight of metal to be carried in our pockets and purses with new £2 and £5 coins (report, December 29).

In the USA and Canada it is comparatively painless to carry in one's pocket the American equivalent of, say, £5 in small change. I found (living there) that they have their denominations correct and, with the exception of their one dollar note which, like our one pound note of the past, soon

This suggests some responsibility at local community level, as well as by central government. Is there not a role then for local authorities to reinforce the work of their local health authorities?

Where such an elected body can set its way towards the local mobilisation of resources and agencies for the purpose of reinforcing that work: filling the moral void, initiating and pointing towards more wholesome and socially acceptable behavioural changes. I hope there will be a supportive response. I have asked the Prime Minister today if she will consider instructing the Secretaries of State for the Social Services, the Environment and Education to provide the appropriate co-ordination.

Yours sincerely,
PATRICK DUFFY,
House of Commons,
January 1.

From the Reverend Professor J. W. Bowker

Sir, The recent disagreement between the BMA and the National Blood Transfusion Service has created a totally different anxiety among some people (to judge from phone calls and letters) to the effect that if those in risk groups have been or are donating blood, other donors may receive the virus from the equipment used.

The widest possible publicity needs to be given to the fact that this cannot happen. It cannot happen because the equipment used is discarded on each occasion that blood is taken.

Your own report (January 6) makes it clear how great the threat to the transfusion services is from the decline in donors. This unnecessary fear needs to be removed at once, and beyond that, it becomes an even deeper moral obligation on those who know they have not been in the risk categories to come forward as donors.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN BOWKER (President,
Christian Action on Aids),
Trinity College, Cambridge,
January 6.

From Mr Anthony Hyman
Sir, Following well publicized examples of infection, people will soon be refusing transfusion for fear of contracting Aids. Also, pressures on the blood transfusion service are heavy.

A partial remedy exists for both problems. If patients undergoing elective surgery could give, in appropriate cases, a pint of their own blood for use in emergency it would not have to be screened, while there could be no danger of cross-infection. Three weeks before an operation should usually suffice for the patient's haemoglobin level to return to normal.

Such measures are urgently needed to maintain confidence in the medical services. This facility has long been used by a knowledgeable few. It should now be made available to the many.

Yours etc.
ANTHONY HYMAN,
38A Downshire Hill,
Hampstead, NW3,
January 6.

Firm in the saddle

From the Dowager Lady Grimthorpe

Sir, I take up my pen in defence of side-saddle riding and in support of the letter of the Chairman of the Side Saddle Association (December 30). But she does not mention two essential things: these are balance in the side-saddle and knowing how to fall, if your horse makes a mistake.

As a child my parents insisted I rode bare-back. I mostly rode alone and often fell off my pony and learnt to land on my backside, with no damage to myself.

My next pony was bigger and I started to ride side-saddle, the pommies helping me to sit straight in the saddle, but largely I kept myself there by balance rather than gripping tightly to the pommies.

Between the two wars, I hunted a great deal on high-class hunters, but if my horse made a mistake and looked like falling I went off first. I never had a horse fall on me, nor was I ever trapped by my saddle pommies.

Yours sincerely,
ANGELA GRIMTHORPE,
Crest House, Kettlewell, North Yorkshire.
December 31.

From Mrs Elizabeth Morrison
Sir, I would like to support Doreen Archer Houlton's statement, "... a side-saddle can give a woman a far firmer seat than she would ever have astride".

My aunt, the late Christie Tanner, nee Radnor, won the Ballygunn Cup in Calcutta about 1910. She rode side-saddle on successive Sundays during the cold weather from point to point over formidable jumps and beat all the men.

Yours faithfully,
ELIZABETH MORRISON,
Granhams,
Great Shelford, Cambridge.

becomes tattered and filthy, I would like to see them adopted over here.

All that is necessary and adequate to meet cash transactions in Britain are four notes and five coins in the following denominations: notes in £100, £25, £10, and £5; coins for £1, as in current use, plus 25, 10, 5 pence and 1 penny pieces of the same size and weight as the American quarter (25c), dime (10c), nickel (5c) and 1 cent pieces respectively.

Yours faithfully,
R. D. WALL,
Wren Park Farm,
Black Nottley, Brainree, Essex.

Toilers worthy of their hire?

From Dr M. T. Hutchings
Sir, Two courses of action were adopted by my daughter during the university vacation in order to earn £100 towards her winter holiday. The first took about 20 minutes — filling in a form to purchase British Gas shares, and then going to the bank to sell them a week after issue and collect £50 profit, free of capital gains tax.

The second consisted seeking a job as a casual waitress in a local restaurant, dressing appropriately and travelling there on many days to work a total of some 25 hours at £1.75 per hour, plus a small share of tips. This also brought in about £50 — fortunately not subject to 29 per cent income tax in her case as her allowance was not exceeded.

One asks what conclusions today's young people will draw from such experiences as to the morality of present society in Britain — a society which rewards equally such disparate effort?

Yours faithfully,
M. T. HUTCHINGS,
Aldwicks, Church Street,
West Hanney, Wantage, Oxfordshire.

Education for life

From Mrs D. A. Potts
Sir, While the young Roger Scruton (feature, December 30) was solving differential equations in Piaggio — and the average *Times* reader might have difficulty in seeing the precise utility of that operation — his American contemporaries were receiving the kind of education he would have despised. They had no grammar schools, no O levels, no A levels, no national procedures for making more than half the population feel stupid.

At university they could choose to study real estate, child psychology, creative writing or the collected works of Damon Runyan and feel proud to be in higher education. How classically-educated Englishmen laughed at them!

Meanwhile, this hopeless system was producing Nobel prize-winners in abundance, put men on the Moon, created so much wealth that their galleries and libraries are full to overflowing. The great American achievement is the total confidence of its people and this is not the result of selective schooling or S-level anything. As for reading Chaucer at 16: wouldn't it be more useful to teach the young how a dollar is earned?

Yours faithfully,
DORIANE POTTS,
74 Stanton Road,
Headington, Oxford.

Macmillan succession

From Lord Campbell of Croy
Sir, In his letter of January 6 Mr Humphrey Berkeley gives his version of what happened when a successor was being chosen to Mr Macmillan in 1963. I applaud the contribution which he made a year later to the creation of the present system of election by Conservative MPs by secret ballot. However, as the senior Conservative Government Whip of that time still alive and still in Parliament, I think I can throw some clearer light on the events of October 1963, because I had to participate in the procedure which then applied.

At the urgently convened Whips' meetings, the Chief Whip arranged for all Conservative MPs to be consulted personally (it was my task to speak to about 40). Much of this had to be done by telephone because it was during a recess. The first and main question to be put was, who was the MP's personal choice?

In briefing to meet expected questions, such as who were the candidates in the field, the Chief Whip required us to give the names of all who had publicly declared themselves and to make clear that Lord Home was also a runner. This was relevant because the Peerage Act had only just been passed. Lord Home would not until then have been eligible and it was not generally known that he was willing to disclaim his peerage.

I agree with Mr Berkeley that a secret ballot can produce a different result from the informal consultation which had to be carried out in 1963. I must record, however, that Mr Rodmeyer informed the Whips when the results had been collected, that Lord Home had received the most support.

Yours faithfully,
CAMPBELL OF CROY,
Holme Rose, Nairnshire.

Cue to an enigma

From Dr Selby Whittingham
Sir, In his assessment of Harold Macmillan (feature, December 31) Professor Norman Gash concludes by saying that Macmillan was practical rather than principled. Yet surely his espousal of the cause for returning the Elgin Marbles to Greece shows him to have been someone whom, at any rate in part, Byron would have recognised as a fellow romantic?

Yours faithfully,
SELBY WHITTINGHAM,
Turner House,
153 Cromwell Road, SW5.

The lost Leader

From Baroness Young
Sir, Your Political Editor speculated (January 2) as to whether, after the general election, I might be "the first female Leader of the House of Lords". I would remind him that a woman served as Leader of the House of Lords from September, 1981 to June, 1983. She was, Sir, your obedient servant,
YOUNG,
House of Lords.

ON THIS DAY

JANUARY 8 1940

Food rationing began on January 8, 1940, and ended in May, 1954. Rationing in Germany had been in force since August, 1939.

RATIONING TO-DAY

MEAT REGISTRATION

The rationing scheme comes into operation to-day, 18 weeks after the outbreak of war. The commodities to be rationed immediately are bacon and ham, butter, and sugar. To-day is the last day for registration with retailers for meat, the rationing of which will begin next month on a day not yet fixed. The weekly allowances for each person of the household rationed from to-day are:

Bacon and ham, 4oz (3½oz if cooked).

Butter, 4oz.

Sugar, 12oz.

For the making of marmalade there will be an extra allowance of sugar on the basis of 3lb. of sugar for every 1lb. of oranges, and it is probable that there will be a similar allowance during the next jam-making season. Beekeepers will be allowed an extra 10lb. of sugar per colony. For the present no change will be made in the maximum retail prices of sugar, and a new Order provides that in calculating the retail price any portion of a farthing shall be regarded as one farthing.

A Rationing Order issued on Saturday states that the allowances of rationed foods permitted to be served for consumption in catering establishments (which include hotels, restaurants, cafes, coffee stalls, clubs, canteens, and other places of refreshment open to the public) are 4½ ounces butter a customer for every meal served, and 4½ ounces sugar a customer for every meal served, with a further allowance of ¼ ounce of sugar for each hot beverage served to a customer. The Order is so worded as to permit the sale of ham sandwiches by catering establishments for consumption off the premises.

ADVICE TO SHOPPERS

The following directions should be observed by purchasers of rationed goods:

When buying rationed goods you must hand your ration book to the retailer, who will detach the appropriate coupons. You must not detach the coupons yourself. Coupons not used in the week to which they relate cannot be used later.

To save trouble you may tell the retailer to detach a whole page of coupons for one of the rationed foods. Do not do so if you expect to go away from home on holiday or business.

Always take your ration book with you. If you are going to stay in an hotel or boarding house hand your book to the management on arrival. If you are staying in lodgings and intend to do your own shopping, take your book to the Food Office in the district and you will receive an emergency card...

"SHARE AND SHARE ALIKE"

MR. W. S. MORRISON ON RATION SCHEME

Mr. W. S. Morrison, Minister of Food, in a broadcast talk on Saturday night, said that the watchword of the rationing scheme was "share and share alike." Explaining the need for rationing, he said that all the foodstuffs to be rationed were largely brought from overseas. To obtain them we were using a great deal of shipping and of money. As such shipping space and foreign exchange as possible were required for bringing armaments and raw materials which would help us to win the war.

"We cannot," he said, "make a contribution equal to that made by our seamen. We must not ask them to run unnecessary risks. Having decided to take less, there must be perfect fairness in distribution — no first-come-first-served or anything of that kind. We must divide what we have and share out equally, and that can only be done by rationing..."

Reform of honours

From Mr George Clark
Sir, One anomaly in honours and awards needs urgent correction. At present, the class of the award depends on rank and not on merit.

Earlier last year an NCO was awarded the George Medal for two acts of great bravery. It was announced as "the highest award for his rank". Had he been a commissioned officer, he would have received the George Cross.

Similarly with honours: a managing director will receive the CBE, the sales manager the OBE and the chandlery the MBE.

In the case of the unnecessary and unmerited awards to Civil Servants on retirement, the award is similarly graded according to rank and not to any achievement.

Only the Victoria Cross is immune from this class distinction. Is this the only type of discrimination against which there is no Act?
Yours faithfully,
GEORGE CLARK,
36 Spencer Road,
Paignton, Devon.
January 1.

From Mr Christopher Elliot-Cohen

Sir, I can appreciate that it is not always easy to make the Prime Minister laugh. But does it really merit the CBE?

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER ELIOT-COHEN.

Hilldrop Farm,
Rambsay,
Marlborough, Wiltshire.
January 1.

Peking, Hanoi differ on clashes

From Robert Gieves
Peking

Fighting continued yesterday between Chinese and Vietnamese forces on the Sino-Vietnamese border, with China claiming the deaths of 200 Vietnamese troops and the annihilation of a Vietnamese company of soldiers and Vietnam claiming to have killed 500 Chinese soldiers.

A Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman yesterday said a Radio Hanoi report that some 500 Chinese soldiers had been killed during an incursion into Vietnam was "sheer boasting" and "completely false".

"It was Vietnamese troops which first made the penetration against China," Mr Ma said. "After the penetration, Chinese border troops made a counter attack."

Last night the New China news agency reported that Chinese troops had killed 200 Vietnamese troops during fighting between the two sides on Monday, and that Chinese forces had wiped out a Vietnamese company on Wednesday. It said Chinese troops had repulsed a Vietnamese attack in the Lao Shan area of China's Yunnan province.

Vietnamese sources, however, said the fighting had occurred on the border between Vietnam and China's Guangxi province, which is adjacent to Yunnan province.

A Radio Hanoi broadcast monitored in Bangkok on Tuesday claimed that a Chinese regiment on Monday crossed into the Vinh Xuyen district of Vietnam's Hapuyen province.

Prince to consider leaving Marines

Continued from page 1

yesterday: "Prince Edward is returning to Lympstone. He is considering his future with the Royal Marines. No decision has yet been made."

The brief comment was the first from Buckingham Palace since *The Sun* newspaper claimed yesterday that the Prince, aged 22, an acting Lieutenant, had spent three hours in tears after reaching his decision to quit.

It said that the decision led to a major disagreement between Prince Edward and Prince Philip, who is Captain General of the Marines.

The Marines' commanding officer, Commandant General Sir Michael Wilkins, who was said to have spent two hours at Buckingham Palace on Tuesday in an attempt to persuade the Prince to change his mind, was unavailable for comment yesterday. He was said to have refused to accept the Prince's letter of resignation.

Prince Edward was the first member of the Royal family to join the Marines, founded in 1664 and one of the oldest military organisations in the country.

He joined in September 1983 and did a two-week initial course at Lympstone before going to Jesus College, Cambridge to read for a history degree on a Marines-sponsored cadetship.

He subsequently spent five weeks a year with the Marines, including a short tour in Belize where those alongside him on river and jungle patrols with 10 Commando were impressed with his leadership potential.

Spectrum, page 10

Lebanon ex-leader escapes bomb attack



Two cars belonging to the bodyguards of a former president of Lebanon, Mr. Chamoun, were hit by a bomb yesterday after a booby-trapped car exploded in Beirut. Three of the guards and a passing pedestrian were killed, but Mr. Chamoun (below), left, leaving hospital after treatment received only minor cuts. He said that an icon of the Virgin Mary which he always carried had protected him.

The former president and his escort were driving through Christian east Beirut when the car bomb exploded. The assassination attempt threw the former leader's car more than 20 yards (Car bomb, page 8).

Contras report clears Reagan

From Christopher Thomas
Washington

White House officials claim that a secret report by the Senate intelligence committee shows that Lieutenant Colonel Oliver North falsified information on clandestine arms sales to Iran to give the impression of prior approval by President Reagan.

The disclosure supports the Administration's contention that President Reagan had no knowledge of some aspects of the operation.

Congressional officials say that the report concludes, from circumstantial evidence, that \$8.5 million (\$5.7 million) from one arms sale was diverted to the Nicaraguan Contras. Mr. Reagan has repeatedly denied knowing anything of cash diversions.

The White House yesterday denied that it was looking for a replacement for Mr. William Casey, director of the Central Intelligence Agency, who has a cancerous brain tumour removed three weeks ago. But an administration official admitted privately that several names are already being considered.

The Senate now been advised by the State Department that he should ask for a refund. But the money, which was deposited in a Swiss bank account on August 19, has apparently vanished.

It was solicited from the Sultan by Mr. Elliott Abrams, assistant Secretary of State for Latin America, acting on instructions from Mr. George Shultz.

White House and congressional officials are leaking details of the Senate intelligence committee report because its findings so strongly support Mr. Reagan's assertion that he knew nothing of the diversion of funds to the Contras. The committee has released its report, much to the President's anger.

An aide to the White House official quoted yesterday, the report, showed that Colonel North and Vice Admiral John P. Ryan, the former National Security Advisor, were not aware of the diversion of funds.

Mr. Patten says that the bigger building societies are enthusiastic about the ideas he has outlined.

Patten's plans, page 12

Burnham pay talks go on despite rejection

By John Clare, Education Correspondent

Teachers and their local education authority employers in England and Wales were trying to reach final agreement on a pay and conditions package last night, even though the Government has said it will reject it.

The deal, which is meant to give 400,000 teachers a 16.4 per cent pay rise over 15 months, has been the subject of exhaustive negotiations beginning in Coventry last July.

The meeting of the Burnham Committee, the statutory

body responsible for setting teachers' pay, was hoping to set the seal on an agreement which the Government estimates could cost up to 50 per cent more than the £600 million it is prepared to accept.

A majority of the teachers and Labour-controlled employers were determined to press ahead if only to show that they have an alternative to the deal which Mr. Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science, has threatened to impose.



Man at centre of prison siege charged

Continued from page 1

individual cases were not discussed, but they confirmed that following an incident in B hall at Barmine on Sunday a prisoner was charged by police.

Last night, three prison officers were still being held by 16 inmates and a stalemate appeared to have been reached.

The Scottish Office said yesterday evening that negotiations were being hampered by "media pressure from outside the prison" and they asked them to move out of sight of the prisoners. The spokesman said that the condition of three officers "appears to be fine".

Early yesterday, eight of the original 24 rioters gave themselves up. Photograph, page 2

Tories plan to break-up large council estates

Continued from page 1

Management would be provided either by tenants' co-operatives or by housing associations.

"Some of the bigger housing associations are keen to go into management on an agency basis. They've got the expertise," says Mr. Patten. He envisages even councils' statutory duties to the homeless being sub-contracted to housing associations.

Mr. Patten's outline plans are likely to provoke an angry reaction from the Labour Party, fearful of seeing its political strength on the council estates, the bedrock of the Labour vote, broken up.

He believes that even the most depressing blocks of council flats can be "turned round" by achieving a mix of tenure and effective manage-

ment, taking as examples Conservative-controlled Wandsworth in south-west London and Labour-controlled Salford, in Greater Manchester.

"Wandsworth has adopted a policy of blocks for improvement and blocks for sale. They have managed to turn round many tower blocks from areas which were effectively no-go - not just for the postman but effectively for the policeman too - into areas which have got a fascinating mix of City-working 'Yuppies' and Wandsworth working people in the lower socio-economic classes."

Mr. Patten says that the bigger building societies are enthusiastic about the ideas he has outlined.

Patten's plans, page 12

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

New exhibitions
A Reputation Amongst Artists: tour organized by Norwich School of Art, Gardner Centre Gallery, Sussex University, Falmer, Brighton, Mon to Sat 10 to 6.
Anthony Hawken: Sculptures in stone, plastics, colour, Elizabeth Lyons: Paintings and

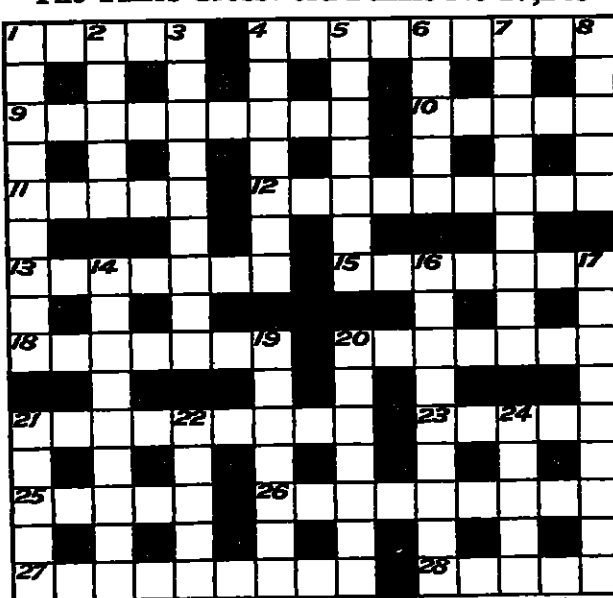
drawings: Charlton House, Woodlands, Myeane Rd, SE3, Mon to Fri 10 to 7.30, Sat 10 to 6, Sun 2 to 6 (closed Wed).
Pinet: Rodin and Photography: 6.30. Rodin: Five contemporary photographers, 7.30. Institut Français, 17 Queensberry Place, SW7, 6.30.
Julia Condon: display of paintings, Edward Toteah, 13 Old Burlington St, W1, Mon 2 to 6, Tues to Fri 11 to 6, Sat 10.30 to 1.

Paper Dolls: Children's programme, 11 and 2: Fashion Dolls: Workshop talk by Imogen Stewart, 2: Museum of London, London Wall, EC2.
Exhibitions in progress
Science: display of equipment used by British Antarctic Survey, Art Gallery and Museum, Kelvingrove, Glasgow, Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5.
Yumi Katayama: Prints, drawings, paintings, Cresser Gallery, 320 Portobello Rd, W10, Tues to Sat 10 to 6.
Sava Peic: Paintings, Foyles Art Gallery, 113-119 Charing Cross Rd, WC2, Mon to Sat 10 to 6.

Music
Jonathan Williams Horn Trio: play Beethoven, Brahms, and Britten: Leicestershire Museum and Art Gallery, New Walk, Leicester, 12.45.
Singers Evening: Black Swan Inn, Peasholme Green, York, 8.00.
Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra: Celebrity Concert, with Murray Perahia (piano); Symphonies by Nielsen and Sibelius, Schumann piano concerto; Colston Hall, Bristol, 7.30.
Hallé Concert: Free Trade Hall, Manchester, 7.30.
London Mozart Players: St David's Hall, The Hayes, Cardiff, 7.30.
Leda Piano Trio: 6: Piano, Clarinet and Cello Concert, 7.30: both at Purcell Room, South Bank, SE1.
London Handel Orchestra: Wigmore Hall, Wigmore St, W1, 7.30.

Books - paperback
FICTION
Carpenter's Gothic, by William Gaddis (Penguin, £3.95)
Jules and Jim, by Henri-Pierre Roché, translated by Patrick Evans (Penguin, £2.95)
Mrs Minchew, by Hilary Bailey (Penguin, £2.95)
Plain Tales from the Hills, by Rudyard Kipling (Penguin Classics, £2.50)
The Man Who Would Be King, and Other Stories, by Rudyard Kipling (Oxford, £2.95)
NON-FICTION
Governing Without a Majority, Diemmas for Hung Parliaments in Britain, by David Butler (Macmillan, £2.95)
Jules and Jim, by Henri-Pierre Roché, translated by Patrick Evans (Penguin, £2.95)
Outcasts, Journeys to the Surviving Relics of the British Empire, by Simon Winchester (Hodder & Stoughton, £4.95)
Rudyard Kipling, His Life and Work, by Charles Carrington (Penguin, £4.95)
The Complete Paintings of the Van Eycks, introduction by Robert Hughes, notes and catalogue by Giorgio T. Faggini (Penguin, £7.95)

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 17,248



ACROSS
1 Count, say, in German plot (5).
4 Flat-carriers: No - a more radical group (9).
9 The bus for those who are looking for power (9).
10 A cad and coward, it's been said (5).
11 Flowers in sprays (5).
12 Bribed barstier to get watertight material (5,4).
13 Skate or flounder here providing sport (3,4).
15 Ask for a full pint from David's maid (7).
18 The spectre of one on dole, perhaps (7).
20 Ring round sleeve identifies a member society (7).
21 It helps in the arrest of anyone for the high jump (9).
23 Slave dance (5).
25 Sharp pain a knife produced (5).
26 Pay what is owed for one run to mix with beers (9).
27 The jolly friend, in terms of warmth (9).
28 Pitch is plumb (5).

5 This orchid's a climber - all in the Bible (7).
6 Fastened transfer to mount (5).
7 Mexican dish to notice in Chilean cookery (9).
8 Mishit to leg (5).
14 Staying the course in French river (9).
16 I'm badly in love with Mab, and it can't be altered (9).
17 Physicist said to have been intent on securing a stable position (9).
19 Use this if you're going to coast - but you may not get there (7).
20 Pleasant feature of friendship that embraces even outsiders (7).
21 Bird calling 'Holy, holy' above the Square (5).
22 Trunked boy could give a girl (5).
24 Run into single line of traffic in this port (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 17,247
MARTIN BLANKING
OLGA ALUMINUM
BOERHERS
WARRIOR FOREWORE
CLIE BELTROTUM
GRASSIE PLATED
KRALE
WOODLAND SALOM
REBUKING LONIC
TERRA NADIEU
HILLER KINGDOM

Concise Crossword page 10

Anniversaries

Births: Alfred Wallace, naturalist, Uist, 1823; Wilkie Collins, novelist, *The Woman in White*, London, 1824; John Curtin, Prime Minister of Australia, 1944; Cresswell, *The Complete Paintings of the Van Eycks*, introduction by Robert Hughes, notes and catalogue by Giorgio T. Faggini (Penguin, £7.95).

Roads

London and South-east: West Ham Single line traffic with temporary lights on A1011 Manor Rd between Memorial Ave and Godbold Rd. West London: Delays between Hammersmith and Putney due to roadworks on A219 Fulham Palace Rd. Midlands: M1 Northamptonshire: Traffic reduced to single lane due to overnight works between junction 16 and Watford Gap service area from 10 pm to 6 am. A456: Delays due to bypass construction work to the W of Bewdley town centre. A53 Shropshire: Delays between Shrewsbury and Newcastle under Lyme because of roadworks on A53 between Hodnet and Tern Hill. North: M1 South Yorkshire: Diversions and repair work between junctions 31 and 33 with slip roads at junction 31 and M1/A18 closed at times. M63 Greater Manchester: Restrictions due to widening at Barton Bridge. A49: Two inbound carriageways closed due to work on Warrington Bridge, Cheshire. West: M5 Somerset: Lane closures and restrictions between junctions 24 (Minchhead) and 27 (Tiverton). A30 Devon: Temporary signals for 24 hours at Monkton between Honiton and A303. Scotland: A74 Southbound inside lane closed near Harthope viaduct, Lanarkshire. A77: Single line traffic and temporary lights N of Ballantrae, Ayrshire.

General

William Corbett, Richard Caddell: readings of city poetry; National Poetry Centre, 21 Earls Court Sq, SW5, 7.30.

Bond prize

The monthly Premium Bond prize for January of £250,000 was won by number 197B 106128 (winner lives in Hertfordshire).

RAC frost alert

The RAC advises drivers to carry out a "frost check" to avoid morning breakdowns:
● Radiator: check anti-freeze is full strength.
● Windscreen: cover to ensure good visibility.
● Locks: ensure they are free of moisture or use lock de-icer.
● Tyres: ample tread and correctly inflated.
● Washer bottles: windscreen additives to avoid freezing.

The pound

Bank Buys Bank Sells
Australia \$ 2.30 2.18
Austria Sch 1.00 0.98
Belgium Fr 66.50 66.20
Canada \$ 2.28 2.18
Denmark Kr 13.66 13.50
France Fr 6.55 6.45
Germany DM 2.36 2.30
Greece Dr 334 324
Hong Kong \$ 10.70 10.50
India Rupee 47.5 46.5
Italy Lira 2036 1980
Japan Yen 167 162
Netherlands Gld 3.36 3.30
Norway Kr 11.27 11.00
Portugal Esc 200 190
South Africa Rd 4.40 4.30
Spain Ptas 166.50 165.00
Sweden Kr 10.36 10.20
Switzerland Fr 2.475 2.450
USA \$ 1.52 1.50
Yugoslavia Dnr 280 270

ABROAD

These are Tuesday's figures. Figures not available.
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Executive Editor
Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share

1953.0 (+18.7)

FT-SE 100

1722.2 (+31.5)

Bargains

35851 (34339)

USM (Datastream)

193.21 (+1.06)

THE POUND

US Dollar

1.4715 (-0.0050)

W German mark

2.8363 (-0.0029)

Trade-weighted

68.8 (-0.1)

\$5.6m US
buys by
Johnson

Britain's largest dry cleaner, Johnson Group Cleaners, has paid \$5.6 million (£3.48 million) in cash for three American dry-cleaning companies.

The acquisitions represent Johnson's first spending in the US since its initial two-year \$24 million spree ended 18 months ago.

Johnson indicated this year that its US takeover campaign had been halted while its existing acquisitions were consolidated. These latest purchases had been targeted for a later date but were brought forward for completion before December 31 to gain US income tax advantages.

All three purchases are in the southern states, where Johnson is already heavily concentrated. It is buying B&B of Nashville, a Tennessee company, for \$2.1 million. Whitfield of South Carolina, for \$2 million, and Custom Cleaners of Georgia, for \$1.52 million.

Between them, the three are estimated to have made profits of \$1.1 million in 1986.

Japan venture

Fuji Seal, a Japanese packaging company, is taking advantage of Britain's enterprise zone arrangements with a \$5 million investment at Gillingham, Kent, its first in Britain. The company has taken three acres and expects to employ an initial 60 local people, doubling that number by the end of the first year.

Referral call

The Shadow Trade and Industry spokesman, Mr John Smith, has urged Sir Gordon Borrie, director-general of the Office of Fair Trading, to refer the proposed bid by BTR for the glassmaker Pilkington to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

\$34m loan

BHP is arranging an Aus\$75 million (£24 million) Euro-bond issue - its first denominated in Australian dollars. It will be for five years with an interest rate of 14.25 per cent and priced at 101.5 per cent.

Bid approach

Tenby Industries has received an approach which may lead to an offer. If an offer is made, it is likely to be "considerably" higher than the present share price, Tenby said.

Dowty shuffle

Dowty Group has restructured itself into five divisions, by creating two new divisions for electronic systems and information technology.

Wall Street	18	Foreign Exchange	20
Commodities	19	Traded Options	20
Stock Market	19	Share Prices	21
Temps	19	Unit Trusts	22
Co News	20	Commodities	22
Money Markets	20	USM Prices	22

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York	1953.0 (+18.7)
Dow Jones	1953.0 (+18.7)
Nikkei Dow	18842.37 (-94.39)
Hong Kong	2807.11 (+23.24)
Hang Seng	278.8 (-1.1)
Amsterdam Gen	1534.0 (+11.1)
Sydney AO	2029.0 (-19.3)
Frankfurt	4018.40 (-1.17)
General	405.5 (+1.0)
Paris CAC	565.20 (-5.90)
Zurich S&K Gen	84.57 (+0.08)
London FT A	1722.2 (+31.5)
FT 100	1722.2 (+31.5)
FT 30	1953.0 (+18.7)

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base	11%
3-month interbank	11 1/4%
3-month eligible bills	10 1/4%
buying rate	
US Prime Rate	7 1/4%
Federal Funds	6 1/4%
3-month Treasury	5.43-5.41%
30-year bonds	10 1/2-10 3/4%

CURRENCIES

London	\$1.4715
DM	2.8363
Sfr	2.3361
Yen	232.64
Index	68.8
EU	10.72475
New York	\$1.4719
DM	2.8375
Sfr	2.3371
Yen	232.65
Index	68.8
EU	10.72475

Don't throw chance away: plea

NEDC urges
export drive

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Government ministers and top industry and trade union leaders yesterday reached an uncommon accord on the need for a sustained job-creating export drive. They agreed that the best opportunities for 20 years now presented themselves.

At the first of this year's meetings of the tripartite National Economic Development Council, members were unanimous in agreeing that the depreciation of the pound against the mark and yen, coupled with the collapse of oil prices last year, presented almost unprecedented possibilities for Britain to regain lost market share abroad and to combat imports.

Since 1962, Britain has seen its share of world markets for manufactured goods more than halved to under 8 per cent.

Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer and NEDC chairman, gave the now traditional government warning, however, about "throwing away" the opportunity in higher pay settlements. He also promised that the Government would resist, both directly and in concert with Britain's Euro-

pean partners, any escalation of protectionism in the United States.

There was a threat, he said, that the world could slide into a self-defeating trade war. "Last week we heard with great concern of the US threat to impose punitive tariffs on European goods, among them British gin. This is unacceptable and the protectionist pressures in the new US Congress go wider."

"I well understand the Americans' problem. They are running the largest trade deficit in recorded history. But there can be no winners from a trade war, only losers. So there is no salvation in protection."

During a meeting not usually marked by widespread agreement on economic matters, Mr Lawson said that compared with West Germany - Britain's largest trading partner - Britain's manufacturing industry was now more competitive than it had been for most of the past 20 years. And because productivity was improving strongly, latest figures suggested that British unit labour costs might now be growing even more slowly than Germany's.

Mr Norman Willis, general secretary of the TUC, made clear that any suggestion that the unions wanted nothing good to happen to the economy before the general election "could not be further from the truth".

He did not reiterate previous gloomy remarks about balance of payments prospects and said the TUC would help to further the export initiative; it wanted to see exports rising, beneficial effects on jobs and the economy working well.

In a detailed paper to the council, Mr John Cassels, director-general of the National Economic Development Office, said there seemed no danger that the pound would rise sharply against the mark unless inflation shot up. Exports could expect several years of a more competitive real exchange rate.

He said the British economy would have to continue to grow by 3 per cent, "not just in 1987, as the autumn statement predicts, but for year after year after that if we are to have any hope of making a significant impact on unemployment."

If exports could be increased substantially, "we shall be on our way", he said.

PR group's
profits
leap
to £2m

By Richard Lanier

Valin Pollen International, the financial public relations group which moved up the USM to a full listing last April, blew its own trumpet yesterday by announcing almost doubled results for the year to September 30.

Pretax profits jumped from £1.1 million to £2 million as turnover increased by 50 per cent to £27.6 million. Mr Reg Valin, the chairman, reported that all the operating subsidiaries - which also take in design, typesetting and market research - beat their profit targets.

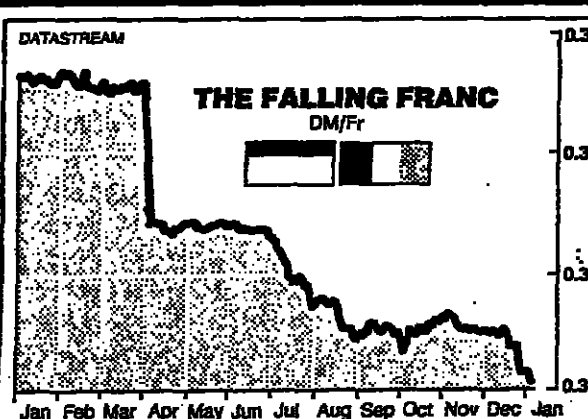
The company looks set for a high-profile year in 1987, having been appointed as adviser to the state sell-offs of Rolls-Royce, British Airways and the British Airports Authority.

Earnings per share grew from 4.7p to 8.5p and the final dividend is being boosted by 50 per cent to 1p, taking the total to 1.5p, against 1p in 1985.

Despite the sparkling results, the shares slid by 10p to 170p, having rallied from last year's low of 130p in August when a sharp fall in profits at the rival Good Relations affected all shares in the PR sector.

B.A.A.
BRITISH AIRWAYS

Valin Pollen: advisers in the great air sell-off

Bonn refuses help
to boost franc

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

The West German Government yesterday rejected French demands for action to curb the strength of the mark. The mark's rise, in combination with the industrial unrest in France, has produced a crisis in the European Monetary System.

Yesterday, the franc remained at the bottom of its EMS band against the mark, at Fr333/DM100, supported by heavy intervention in the currency markets by the Bank of France. Other European central banks also intervened to hold down the mark.

Herr Gerhard Stoltenberg, the German finance minister, told the German Cabinet yesterday that economic fundamentals did not justify the franc's weakness.

He rejected action to curb the mark's rise, including lower German interest rates, which are, in any case, virtually ruled out in the run-up to

this month's German elections.

Earlier, Herr Martin Bangemann, the German economics minister, said that the mark was appropriately valued and that there was no reason for a revaluation.

In contrast, M Edouard Balladur, the French finance minister, repeated his call for German action, saying: "It is not the franc which is unhealthy. It is the mark which is too healthy."

Belgium followed recent interest rate increases in the EMS by raising its discount rate from 8 to 8.5 per cent.

Germany's gross national product rose by 2.5 per cent last year, according to official figures yesterday. The average unemployment rate dropped to 9 per cent from 9.4 per cent in 1985.

Comment, page 19

Appeal by Guinness shareholder

In defence of the small man

By Lawrence Lever

A Guinness shareholder yesterday appealed to other shareholders in the brewing and leisure group to call for an extraordinary meeting of the company.

Mr Irving Scott, aged 46, managing director of a computer company in Leeds, placed an advertisement in the personal columns of *The Times* yesterday calling for the meeting.

Mr Scott has already reserved the North British Hotel in Edinburgh on February 17. This also happens to be the place where the Distillers Group, which was taken over by Guinness, traditionally held its annual meetings.

Mr Scott holds 500 shares in the brewing and leisure group which is currently under investigation by the Department of Trade. His wife is also a small Guinness shareholder, having held Distillers shares for 23 years before Guinness won control of the company in April.

Mr Scott says he is calling for the meeting because he wants to know whether the company has acted honourably in the Guinness affair.

Shareholder power: Irving Scott (above) and his advertisement in *The Times*

He thinks shareholders are entitled to "a full explanation" of how the company came to invest \$100 million dollars in a fund controlled by Mr Ivan Boesky, the disgraced American arbitrator, and of its role in supporting its own share price during the bid for Distillers.

Four aim for Royal Ordnance

By Teresa Poole, Business Correspondent

Four companies have expressed an interest in buying the whole of Royal Ordnance, the state-owned arms manufacturer due to be privatized this year. They are British Aerospace, GKN, Trafalgar House, and Ferranti.

The Government appears to be sticking to its objective of selling Royal Ordnance to a single buyer rather than see the company split up.

Imperial Chemical Industries, for instance, submitted an offer for the explosives business, but has not been included on the list of companies with whom negotiations are continuing.

The list of the four bidders was due to be published

yesterday but one company - believed to be Trafalgar House - vetoed the public statement.

Negotiations will now concentrate between the Ministry of Defence and the four prospective purchasers and it is hoped to finalize a deal by the end of March, somewhat behind the original deadline. A series of factory visits is planned to start immediately and the bidders will be given a detailed review and financial breakdown of the company.

Ferranti, not previously considered a front runner, could provide much of the expertise which Royal Ordnance presently lacks at the high-technology end.

Trafalgar House is likely to

see Royal Ordnance as providing a fifth leg for the group, while GKN regards a possible acquisition as a logical extension of its existing defence business manufacturing armoured personnel carriers.

British Aerospace, a leading defence contractor, has always appeared the most obvious buyer, although it might find difficulties in accommodating all of Royal Ordnance's businesses into one manageable entity, in particular armoured vehicles.

The main concern among the potential bidders is over who will bear the costs of any future restructuring and redundancies at Royal

Ordnance's 16 sites. If the purchasers are forced to accept these liabilities, the final bids could fall below £100 million for the £300 million-a-year turnover business.

The privatization of Royal Ordnance has been among the most problematic for the Government ever since it was forced to cancel last July's proposed stock market flotation. After the Leeds tank factory was sold to Vickers, it was hoped the rest of the company would be disposed of by the end of this month.

There is now a certain degree of scepticism among bidders who fear that an early general election could interfere and postpone the sale.



Royal approval: Anita Roddick with the Princess of Wales at a Body Shop opening

Body Shop
profits
soar 79%

By Alison Eadie

Body Shop International, which makes and sells natural cosmetics from carrot moisturiser to seaweed and birch shampoo, has notched up another year of spectacular growth.

Pretax profits in the year to September 30 were £3.45 million, a rise of 79 per cent on turnover 86 per cent higher at £17.4 million. The founder and managing director Mrs Anita Roddick, who was businesswoman of the year in 1984, remains dedicated to increasing her empire still further.

New products, including a new range of colour cosmetics and cosmetics for men, have been well received.

Mr Gordon Roddick, the chairman, said yesterday that the company had underestimated the pre-Christmas potential of men's cosmetics. Instead of women buying the products for husbands and boyfriends as expected, men have been buying for themselves.

The company hopes to have more than 200 overseas shops by the end of this financial year compared with 168 at the end of last month.

The number of British outlets will increase by 15 to 97 this year, Mr Roddick believes there is still room for about 300 outlets at home.

The total dividend was 3p net, an effective 100 per cent increase after a one-for-one scrip issue. Another one-for-one scrip will be paid.

Temps, page 19

S African blocks
Sun Life moves

By Cliff Feltham

Sun Life, the insurance group, was last night forced to abandon plans to reorganize its business after a South African financial group owning more than 25 per cent of its shares vetoed the proposals at a special shareholders' meeting.

Last night Mr Peter Grant, chairman of Sun Life, accused Mr Donald Gordon, the South African financier, of acting out of "pique" in opposing the plans.

Sun Life needed 75 per cent support from shareholders to launch a significant restructuring involving the setting up of a new non-trading holding company, Sun Life Corporation. The move would have given the company a freer hand in developing other areas of financial services.

But at an extraordinary meeting yesterday, Mr Gordon's Liberty Life - through its Transatlantic Insurance

Holdings offshoot - used its 25.73 per cent stake to block the proposals.

Mr Grant said afterwards: "We decided not to consult them before putting the proposals forward because we did not think we should allow them to influence the way the company is run."

Liberty Life has held a stake in Sun Life for the past six years, recently increasing it to its present size. There have been frequent suggestions that it was about to sell out or launch a bid.

Last night Mr Michael Middlemas, managing director of Transatlantic Insurance, denied it had opposed the plans because it did not have a seat on the board.

"We got these proposals out of the blue. They didn't show us the courtesy of informing us what was intended. We treated the proposals on their merit."

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Money Magazine

WALL STREET

Dow heads higher as rally continues

New York (agencies) — Share prices pushed higher in early trading yesterday, extending the market's New Year rally into the fourth consecutive session. The strength of the bond market and a generally optimistic investment sentiment provided most of the basis for the rise. The Dow Jones Industrial Average climbed by 11.53 points to 1,986.36.

On Tuesday, it closed up 3.51 points at 1,974.83 — which was its second record closing level in succession.

Yesterday, the number of

rising shares outnumbered declining ones by more than two to one and the number of shares traded was 64 million. Time Inc rose by 2 to 72, after being recommended by Merrill Lynch. Navistar topped the list of active stocks, with a rise of 5 to 56, while Diamond Shamrock gained 1 to 36. Diamond has received a takeover bid.

Tuesday's gain in the Dow average came after two powerful rallying sessions in which it had jumped by more than 75 points. The number of rising shares on Tuesday topped declining ones by 954 to 688.

	Jan 6	Jan 7	Jan 8	Jan 9	Jan 10	Jan 11	Jan 12	Jan 13	Jan 14	Jan 15	Jan 16	Jan 17	Jan 18	Jan 19	Jan 20	Jan 21	Jan 22	Jan 23	Jan 24	Jan 25	Jan 26	Jan 27	Jan 28	Jan 29	Jan 30	Jan 31	Feb 1	Feb 2	Feb 3	Feb 4	Feb 5	Feb 6	Feb 7	Feb 8	Feb 9	Feb 10	Feb 11	Feb 12	Feb 13	Feb 14	Feb 15	Feb 16	Feb 17	Feb 18	Feb 19	Feb 20	Feb 21	Feb 22	Feb 23	Feb 24	Feb 25	Feb 26	Feb 27	Feb 28	Feb 29	Feb 30	Mar 1	Mar 2	Mar 3	Mar 4	Mar 5	Mar 6	Mar 7	Mar 8	Mar 9	Mar 10	Mar 11	Mar 12	Mar 13	Mar 14	Mar 15	Mar 16	Mar 17	Mar 18	Mar 19	Mar 20	Mar 21	Mar 22	Mar 23	Mar 24	Mar 25	Mar 26	Mar 27	Mar 28	Mar 29	Mar 30	Mar 31	Apr 1	Apr 2	Apr 3	Apr 4	Apr 5	Apr 6	Apr 7	Apr 8	Apr 9	Apr 10	Apr 11	Apr 12	Apr 13	Apr 14	Apr 15	Apr 16	Apr 17	Apr 18	Apr 19	Apr 20	Apr 21	Apr 22	Apr 23	Apr 24	Apr 25	Apr 26	Apr 27	Apr 28	Apr 29	Apr 30	May 1	May 2	May 3	May 4	May 5	May 6	May 7	May 8	May 9	May 10	May 11	May 12	May 13	May 14	May 15	May 16	May 17	May 18	May 19	May 20	May 21	May 22	May 23	May 24	May 25	May 26	May 27	May 28	May 29	May 30	May 31	Jun 1	Jun 2	Jun 3	Jun 4	Jun 5	Jun 6	Jun 7	Jun 8	Jun 9	Jun 10	Jun 11	Jun 12	Jun 13	Jun 14	Jun 15	Jun 16	Jun 17	Jun 18	Jun 19	Jun 20	Jun 21	Jun 22	Jun 23	Jun 24	Jun 25	Jun 26	Jun 27	Jun 28	Jun 29	Jun 30	Jul 1	Jul 2	Jul 3	Jul 4	Jul 5	Jul 6	Jul 7	Jul 8	Jul 9	Jul 10	Jul 11	Jul 12	Jul 13	Jul 14	Jul 15	Jul 16	Jul 17	Jul 18	Jul 19	Jul 20	Jul 21	Jul 22	Jul 23	Jul 24	Jul 25	Jul 26	Jul 27	Jul 28	Jul 29	Jul 30	Jul 31	Aug 1	Aug 2	Aug 3	Aug 4	Aug 5	Aug 6	Aug 7	Aug 8	Aug 9	Aug 10	Aug 11	Aug 12	Aug 13	Aug 14	Aug 15	Aug 16	Aug 17	Aug 18	Aug 19	Aug 20	Aug 21	Aug 22	Aug 23	Aug 24	Aug 25	Aug 26	Aug 27	Aug 28	Aug 29	Aug 30	Aug 31	Sep 1	Sep 2	Sep 3	Sep 4	Sep 5	Sep 6	Sep 7	Sep 8	Sep 9	Sep 10	Sep 11	Sep 12	Sep 13	Sep 14	Sep 15	Sep 16	Sep 17	Sep 18	Sep 19	Sep 20	Sep 21	Sep 22	Sep 23	Sep 24	Sep 25	Sep 26	Sep 27	Sep 28	Sep 29	Sep 30	Oct 1	Oct 2	Oct 3	Oct 4	Oct 5	Oct 6	Oct 7	Oct 8	Oct 9	Oct 10	Oct 11	Oct 12	Oct 13	Oct 14	Oct 15	Oct 16	Oct 17	Oct 18	Oct 19	Oct 20	Oct 21	Oct 22	Oct 23	Oct 24	Oct 25	Oct 26	Oct 27	Oct 28	Oct 29	Oct 30	Oct 31	Nov 1	Nov 2	Nov 3	Nov 4	Nov 5	Nov 6	Nov 7	Nov 8	Nov 9	Nov 10	Nov 11	Nov 12	Nov 13	Nov 14	Nov 15	Nov 16	Nov 17	Nov 18	Nov 19	Nov 20	Nov 21	Nov 22	Nov 23	Nov 24	Nov 25	Nov 26	Nov 27	Nov 28	Nov 29	Nov 30	Dec 1	Dec 2	Dec 3	Dec 4	Dec 5	Dec 6	Dec 7	Dec 8	Dec 9	Dec 10	Dec 11	Dec 12	Dec 13	Dec 14	Dec 15	Dec 16	Dec 17	Dec 18	Dec 19	Dec 20	Dec 21	Dec 22	Dec 23	Dec 24	Dec 25	Dec 26	Dec 27	Dec 28	Dec 29	Dec 30	Dec 31																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																							
AMR	57 1/2	58 1/2	59 1/2	60 1/2	61 1/2	62 1/2	63 1/2	64 1/2	65 1/2	66 1/2	67 1/2	68 1/2	69 1/2	70 1/2	71 1/2	72 1/2	73 1/2	74 1/2	75 1/2	76 1/2	77 1/2	78 1/2	79 1/2	80 1/2	81 1/2	82 1/2	83 1/2	84 1/2	85 1/2	86 1/2	87 1/2	88 1/2	89 1/2	90 1/2	91 1/2	92 1/2	93 1/2	94 1/2	95 1/2	96 1/2	97 1/2	98 1/2	99 1/2	100 1/2	101 1/2	102 1/2	103 1/2	104 1/2	105 1/2	106 1/2	107 1/2	108 1/2	109 1/2	110 1/2	111 1/2	112 1/2	113 1/2	114 1/2	115 1/2	116 1/2	117 1/2	118 1/2	119 1/2	120 1/2	121 1/2	122 1/2	123 1/2	124 1/2	125 1/2	126 1/2	127 1/2	128 1/2	129 1/2	130 1/2	131 1/2	132 1/2	133 1/2	134 1/2	135 1/2	136 1/2	137 1/2	138 1/2	139 1/2	140 1/2	141 1/2	142 1/2	143 1/2	144 1/2	145 1/2	146 1/2	147 1/2	148 1/2	149 1/2	150 1/2	151 1/2	152 1/2	153 1/2	154 1/2	155 1/2	156 1/2	157 1/2	158 1/2	159 1/2	160 1/2	161 1/2	162 1/2	163 1/2	164 1/2	165 1/2	166 1/2	167 1/2	168 1/2	169 1/2	170 1/2	171 1/2	172 1/2	173 1/2	174 1/2	175 1/2	176 1/2	177 1/2	178 1/2	179 1/2	180 1/2	181 1/2	182 1/2	183 1/2	184 1/2	185 1/2	186 1/2	187 1/2	188 1/2	189 1/2	190 1/2	191 1/2	192 1/2	193 1/2	194 1/2	195 1/2	196 1/2	197 1/2	198 1/2	199 1/2	200 1/2	201 1/2	202 1/2	203 1/2	204 1/2	205 1/2	206 1/2	207 1/2	208 1/2	209 1/2	210 1/2	211 1/2	212 1/2	213 1/2	214 1/2	215 1/2	216 1/2	217 1/2	218 1/2	219 1/2	220 1/2	221 1/2	222 1/2	223 1/2	224 1/2	225 1/2	226 1/2	227 1/2	228 1/2	229 1/2	230 1/2	231 1/2	232 1/2	233 1/2	234 1/2	235 1/2	236 1/2	237 1/2	238 1/2	239 1/2	240 1/2	241 1/2	242 1/2	243 1/2	244 1/2	245 1/2	246 1/2	247 1/2	248 1/2	249 1/2	250 1/2	251 1/2	252 1/2	253 1/2	254 1/2	255 1/2	256 1/2	257 1/2	258 1/2	259 1/2	260 1/2	261 1/2	262 1/2	263 1/2	264 1/2	265 1/2	266 1/2	267 1/2	268 1/2	269 1/2	270 1/2	271 1/2	272 1/2	273 1/2	274 1/2	275 1/2	276 1/2	277 1/2	278 1/2	279 1/2	280 1/2	281 1/2	282 1/2	283 1/2	284 1/2	285 1/2	286 1/2	287 1/2	288 1/2	289 1/2	290 1/2	291 1/2	292 1/2	293 1/2	294 1/2	295 1/2	296 1/2	297 1/2	298 1/2	299 1/2	300 1/2	301 1/2	302 1/2	303 1/2	304 1/2	305 1/2	306 1/2	307 1/2	308 1/2	309 1/2	310 1/2	311 1/2	312 1/2	313 1/2	314 1/2	315 1/2	316 1/2	317 1/2	318 1/2	319 1/2	320 1/2	321 1/2	322 1/2	323 1/2	324 1/2	325 1/2	326 1/2	327 1/2	328 1/2	329 1/2	330 1/2	331 1/2	332 1/2	333 1/2	334 1/2	335 1/2	336 1/2	337 1/2	338 1/2	339 1/2	340 1/2	341 1/2	342 1/2	343 1/2	344 1/2	345 1/2	346 1/2	347 1/2	348 1/2	349 1/2	350 1/2	351 1/2	352 1/2	353 1/2	354 1/2	355 1/2	356 1/2	357 1/2	358 1/2	359 1/2	360 1/2	361 1/2	362 1/2	363 1/2	364 1/2	365 1/2	366 1/2	367 1/2	368 1/2	369 1/2	370 1/2	371 1/2	372 1/2	373 1/2	374 1/2	375 1/2	376 1/2	377 1/2	378 1/2	379 1/2	380 1/2	381 1/2	382 1/2	383 1/2	384 1/2	385 1/2	386 1/2	387 1/2	388 1/2	389 1/2	390 1/2	391 1/2	392 1/2	393 1/2	394 1/2	395 1/2	396 1/2	397 1/2	398 1/2	399 1/2	400 1/2	401 1/2	402 1/2	403 1/2	404 1/2	405 1/2	406 1/2	407 1/2	408 1/2	409 1/2	410 1/2	411 1/2	412 1/2	413 1/2	414 1/2	415 1/2	416 1/2	417 1/2	418 1/2	419 1/2	420 1/2	421 1/2	422 1/2	423 1/2	424 1/2	425 1/2	426 1/2	427 1/2	428 1/2	429 1/2	430 1/2	431 1/2	432 1/2	433 1/2	434 1/2	435 1/2	436 1/2	437 1/2	438 1/2	439 1/2	440 1/2	441 1/2	442 1/2	443 1/2	444 1/2	445 1/2	446 1/2	447 1/2	448 1/2	449 1/2	450 1/2	451 1/2	452 1/2	453 1/2	454 1/2	455 1/2	456 1/2	457 1/2	458 1/2	459 1/2	460 1/2	461 1/2	462 1/2	463 1/2	464 1/2	465 1/2	466 1/2	467 1/2	468 1/2	469 1/2	470 1/2	471 1/2	472 1/2	473 1/2	474 1/2	475 1/2	476 1/2	477 1/2	478 1/2	479 1/2	480 1/2	481 1/2	482 1/2	483 1/2	484 1/2	485 1/2	486 1/2	487 1/2	488 1/2	489 1/2	490 1/2	491 1/2	492 1/2	493 1/2	494 1/2	495 1/2	496 1/2	497 1/2	498 1/2	499 1/2	500 1/2	501 1/2	502 1/2	503 1/2	504 1/2	505 1/2	506 1/2	507 1/2	508 1/2	509 1/2	510 1/2	511 1/2	512 1/2	513 1/2	514 1/2	515 1/2	516 1/2	517 1/2	518 1/2	519 1/2	520 1/2	521 1/2	522 1/2	523 1/2	524 1/2	525 1/2	526 1/2	527 1/2	528 1/2	529 1/2	530 1/2	531 1/2	532 1/2	533 1/2	534 1/2	535 1/2	536 1/2	537 1/2	538 1/2	539 1/2	540 1/2	541 1/2	542 1/2	543 1/2	544 1/2	545 1/2	546 1/2	547 1/2	548 1/2	549 1/2	550 1/2	551 1/2	552 1/2	553 1/2	554 1/2	555 1/2	556 1/2	557 1/2	558 1/2	559 1/2	560 1/2	561 1/2	562 1/2	563 1/2	564 1/2	565 1/2	566 1/2	567 1/2	568 1/2	569 1/2	570 1/2	571 1/2	572 1/2	573 1/2	574 1/2	575 1/2	576 1/2	577 1/2	578 1/2	579 1/2	580 1/2	581 1/2	582 1/2	583 1/2	584 1/2	585 1/2	586 1/2	587 1/2	588 1/2	589 1/2	590 1/2	591 1/2	592 1/2	593 1/2	594 1/2	595 1/2	596 1/2	597 1/2	598 1/2	599 1/2	600 1/2	601 1/2	602 1/2	603 1/2	604 1/2	605 1/2	606 1/2	607 1/2	608 1/2	609 1/2	610 1/2	611 1/2	612 1/2	613 1/2	614 1/2	615 1/2	616 1/2	617 1/2	618 1/2	619 1/2	620 1/2	621 1/2	622 1/2	623 1/2	624 1/2	625 1/2	626 1/2	627 1/2	628 1/2	629 1/2	630 1/2	631 1/2	632 1/2	633 1/2	634 1/2	635 1/2	636 1/2	637 1/2	638 1/2	639 1/2	640 1/2	641 1/2	642 1/2	643 1/2	644 1/2	645 1/2	646 1/2	647 1/2	648 1/2	649 1/2	650 1/2	651 1/2	652 1/2	653 1/2	654 1/2	655 1/2	656 1/2	657 1/2	658 1/2	659 1/2	660 1/2	661 1/2	662 1/2	663 1/2	664 1/2	665 1/2	666 1/2	667 1/2	668 1/2	669 1/2	670 1/2	671 1/2	672 1/2	673 1/2	674 1/2	675 1/2	676 1/2	677 1/2	678 1/2	679 1/2	680 1/2	681 1/2	682 1/2	683 1/2	684 1/2	685 1/2	686 1/2	687 1/2	688 1/2	689 1/2	690 1/2	691 1/2	692 1/2	693 1/2	694 1/2	695 1/2	696 1/2	697 1/2	698 1/2	699 1/2	700 1/2	701 1/2	702 1/2	703 1/2	704 1/2	705 1/2	706 1/2	707 1/2	708 1/2	709 1/2	710 1/2	711 1/2	712 1/2	713 1/2	714 1/2	715 1/2	716 1/2	717 1/2	718 1/2	719 1/2	720 1/2	721 1/2	722 1/2	723 1/2	724 1/2	725 1/2	726 1/2	727 1/2	728 1/2	729 1/2	730 1/2	731 1/2	732 1/2	733 1/2	734 1/2	735 1/2	736 1/2	737 1/2	738 1/2	739 1/2	740 1/2	741 1/2	742 1/2	743 1/2	744 1/2	745 1/2	746 1/2	747 1/2	748 1/2	749 1/2	750 1/2	751 1/2	752 1/2	753 1/2	754 1/2	755 1/2	756 1/2	757 1/2	758 1/2	759 1/2	760 1/2	761 1/2	762 1/2	763 1/2	764 1/2	765 1/2	766 1/2	767 1/2	768 1/2	769 1/2	770 1/2	771 1/2	772 1/2	773 1/2	774 1/2	775 1/2	776 1/2	777 1/2	778 1/2	779 1/2	780 1/2	781 1/2	782 1/2	783 1/2	784 1/2	785 1/2	786 1/2	787 1/2	788 1/2	789 1/2	790 1/2	791 1/2	792 1/2	793 1/2	794 1/2	795 1/2	796 1/2	797 1/2	798 1/2	799 1/2	800 1/2	801 1/2	802 1/2	803 1/2	804 1/2	805 1/2	806 1/2	807 1/2	808 1/2	809 1/2	810 1/2	811 1/2	812 1/2	813 1/2	814 1/2	815 1/2	816 1/2	817 1/2	818 1/2	819 1/2	820 1/2	821 1/2	822 1/2	823 1/2	824 1/2	

STOCK MARKET

Share values soar by £4.4bn as index races to record

By Michael Clark and Carol Leonard

It was the turn of the London stock market to take up the running yesterday as share prices around the world continued to reach new heights.

More than £4.4 billion was added to the value of quoted shares as the FT-SE 100 burst through the psychologically important 1,710 level, to close 31.5 up at a record 1,722.2. That compares with the previous high of 1,717.6. The rise on the narrower FT index of 30 shares was restricted to 18.7 at 1,353.0.

This latest flurry of activity followed a record-breaking run overnight in Tokyo, where the Nikkei Dow Jones, at one stage, surged through the 19,000 level, before closing at a new peak. Share prices have also been riding high on Wall Street - following recent selling to mark the end of the financial year - and in Hong Kong.

Market-makers in London reported heavy institutional and US support, resulting in the equity market's best performance in weeks as a massive bear squeeze developed.

There were double-figure gains among many blue chips in the thin conditions. One broker commented: "Most fund managers spent the first part of the week working out their strategies for 1987 and

have now decided to take the plunge." The sudden flurry of activity certainly seems to have caught most dealers on the hop.

Behind it lies the hope of an early cut in interest rates - but the prospect of a general election in the spring has faded.

Government securities spent a lacklustre day, with losses ranging to 1/4 at the longer end of the market following an uninspiring performance by the pound on the foreign exchanges.

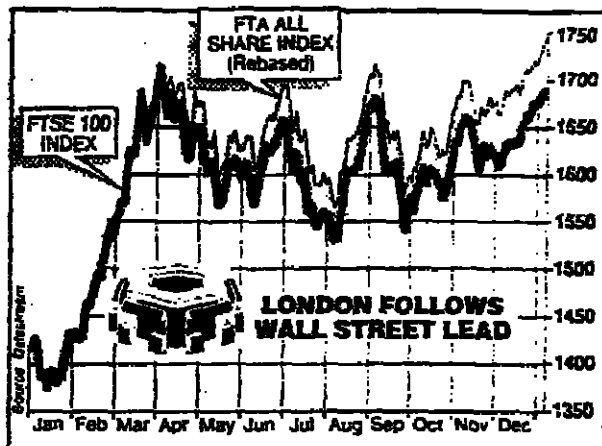
Among the leaders, Astra-MPI rose 4p to 160p with 7.6 million shares traded ahead of

Shares of Television Services International, the USM-owned film and video production group, have risen from a low of 59p to 72p in recent weeks on hopes of a bid shortly. There is talk that the acquisitive Carlton Communications has built up a stake.

The interim figures next week. Dealers are hoping they will make good reading and there are whispers that 1987 could see a bid for the group.

Analysts have been disappointed by the performance of the share price following the Associated Dairies/MFI merger.

Hanson Trust was another



active stock, climbing 9p to 199p as 14 million shares changed hands. ICI also shrugged off recent weakness - stemming from fears about the damage to exports from a strong pound - climbing 37p to a new peak of £11.30 on renewed US support. There was also American support for Consolidated Gold Fields, the mining finance house, which was 11p dearer at 703p.

Shares of Mr "Dollar" Bill Wyllie's BSR International firmed 5p to 96p after learning that Tesco Industries, which it floated off last summer and still retains a 40 per cent stake in, had received a bid approach. Shares of Tesco jumped 32p to a high of 208p, adding £2.3 million to the value of BSR's stake, now worth £14.7 million.

Earlier this week, BSR sold

its Capetown business, based in Taiwan - and there is talk that the group is proposing to float off its Swan Brand subsidiary, famous for its kettles and food-mixers.

Hilldown Holdings firmed 5p to 238p. Phillips & Drew, the broker, is said to have published a glossy circular, recommending the shares as a "buy".

Ladbroke advanced 5p to 390p after a visit to a leading broker. Further visits to other brokers are planned later this week. But some fund managers claim that they may decide to take profits at 400p a share - unless Mr Cyril Stein, the chairman, has something new to tell the City.

Hill Samuel, the merchant bank, jumped by a further 5p, taking it to another fresh peak of 433p, on confirmation that

New Zealand Insurance does now hold a 4.5 per cent stake.

Takeover speculation also boosted Brown Shipley, another merchant bank, which put on 15p to 593p. Morgan Grenfell recovered 5p to 355p.

The pharmaceutical sector had another lively day, with American support lifting Glaxo 60p to 1,150p and Fisons, which releases its new anti-asthma drug Tilade to British GPs on Monday, jumping by 26p to 561p.

Wood Mackenzie, the broker, has put Fisons on to its internal "buy" list and was a big buyer of the stock in the market yesterday.

A pharmaceutical salesman, Mr Sherif Hamdi, said:

"Watch Electron House, the USM components distributor. Its shares jumped 10p to 130p as the 1.9 million new shares issued to pay for Bytech were admitted to the quotation. Profits are expected to treble to £2 million this year and £3.5 million next."

"Fisons has underperformed

relative to the market by 12 per cent in the last three months. Its shares reached a high of 650p ahead of its earnings in September and have fallen steadily ever since.

The rest of the sector has been doing extremely well and Fisons has been left behind."

He says Wood Mackenzie is forecasting earnings growth of 20 per cent in 1987 and 29 per cent in 1988.

Clyde Petroleum, the Herefordshire-based oil company run by the ex-Labour MP, Dr Colin Phipps, dipped 0.5p to 54.5p, despite continued speculation that Elders Resources, the energy arm of Elders PLC, might be interested in making a bid.

However, contrary to our story yesterday that Elders had taken over TMOC - The Moonie Oil Company - which has an 18.7 per cent stake in Clyde, with an option to increase its holding to a maximum of 20 per cent, Elders has, in fact, only just launched its bid for the Australian oil group.

Elders already owns 19 per cent of Moonie, but local dealers do not consider its bid of Aus\$2.55 a share to be a serious offer. Moonie shares are already trading at about \$3.10 and market men "down under" say the bid would have to be raised to at least \$3.50 a share to have any hope of success.

Elsewhere in oils, Shell led the way by touching a new high at 1,007p, a rise of 16p.

COMMENT
Teuton thoroughness needs safeguards

When faced with a currency crisis, as the Chancellor and the Prime Minister have often demonstrated, the answer is to blame the speculators. But when you are in the European Monetary System, things are different - you blame the Germans.

Yesterday, the West German Government answered French charges that it was to blame for the EMS crisis with the same sort of successful stonewalling which saw off the Americans last autumn.

The finance minister, Herr Gerhard Stoltenberg, and the economics minister, Herr Martin Bangemann, made it clear that what is regarded as a too healthy mark and a too tight monetary policy in Paris, is seen somewhat differently in Bonn.

The Bundesbank, with the full support of the Bonn Government, is guarding its interest rates with typical tenacity. Part of the reason is the usual moratorium on economic policy changes ahead of the general election on January 25. But it is unlikely, even when the election has taken place, that Germany will cut interest rates before there are clear signs of a slowdown in money supply growth in the Federal Republic.

A logical sequence of events, as Geoffrey Dennis of James Capel points out, begins with a post-election EMS realignment of around 5 per cent. The result of this is a movement of capital out of Germany and into the higher yielding EMS currencies, by now devalued, on the assumption that the next realignment will be some time in coming. This outflow of capital helps produce a more respectable performance for the German monetary aggregates which, eventually but perhaps

not until the summer, permits a reduction in German rates.

Before that, the EMS has some tough and expensive weeks to get through. The Bank of France, having allowed the franc to slip to the bottom of its permitted range against the mark, now clearly has to be prepared to spend to keep it there.

The strategy of staving off the realignment - sensible in the context of the temporary factor of French industrial unrest - could also involve higher interest rates, not just in France but also in the other weak currencies, such as Denmark and Belgium.

The EMS, as the current episode demonstrates, is no easy option. But it is plainly silly to suggest that the present crisis shows that Mrs Thatcher was wise to ignore the siren voices urging her to take sterling into the exchange rate mechanism of the EMS.

On the contrary, had sterling been in the EMS, the over-riding reason for the present strains in the system - the rise and rise of the mark - would have been signalled earlier. The current difficulties for the franc are no greater than those faced by sterling in the autumn. As it was, only the weakness of the Irish punt, Danish krone and Belgian franc - the EMS tiddlers - hinted at problems in the system.

Whether this would have, in turn, prompted a different course of action by the German authorities is open to doubt. The present crisis is all about the obsession of the Germans to do better even when inflation is already running below zero. With this sort of deflationary bias built into the EMS, the other members can legitimately claim that they need extra leverage over Bonn's actions.

Testing the Chinese Walls

City men seem to have clambered over themselves in the opening days of 1987 to prove that the new-fangled edifice, the Chinese Wall, is thicker and higher than anyone imagined. It has caused some raised eyebrows and not a few outbursts of annoyance.

The first was the banking analysts at Barclays de Zoete Wedd recommending clients to sell Barclays Bank shares on the grounds that performance would be lacking. This independence is laudable. Less clear-cut has been Alexander Laing & Cruickshank's part in building up the stake of CrownX in Mercantile House. Irate fund managers claim they sold believing that the buyer was merely building up a friendly stake.

Mercantile insists that Mr Barkshire had not been told by Laing of the lifetime raid until he received a call from CrownX after the stock market had closed. There is also a suggestion that Laing's own dealers were not told

who the buyer was, so they could not have given fund managers any impression about the client's intentions.

Whether or not Laing said anything which the market might have misconstrued, the mere fact that it was helping a client build a substantial stake in its parent clearly signalled that the client was friendly. Or so the market thought.

It should be a salutary lesson to Laing and to other financial conglomerates that Chinese Walls alone are not enough to keep the market happy - they must ensure that their dealing postures cannot be misconstrued.

While CrownX is unquestionably interested in expanding into the field of financial services, it is hard to see the point of it owning a mere 15 per cent of Mercantile. The "co-operation" now under discussion between the groups is likely to be an attempt to agree on bid terms.

ALPHA STOCKS

These prices are as at 6.45pm

1986		Price				Gross				Volume				1986		Price				Gross			
High	Low	Company	Bid	Offer	Change	div	Yld	%	P/E	ended	7000	High	Low	Company	Bid	Offer	Change	div	Yld	%	P/E		
342	289	Alcatel-Lyons	337	342	+5	+2	14.5	4.3	15.5	5,600	391	313	Ladbroke	307	392	+5	16.8	4.3	18.6	547			
168	145	ASDA-AIFI	149	168	+15	+5	4.5	2.8	17.5	7,000	348	302	Land Securities	342	345	-1	14.2	4.2	23.0	569			
454	414	BET	447	452	+5		24.3	5.4	16.3	520	789	133	Legal & Gen	200	285	-1	12.5	4.7	23.5	2,500			
300	284	BTR	280	285	+10		34.4	30.7	4.8	25.5	684	352	Lloyds	448	455		25.5	5.5	7.1	2,100			
491	444	BAT	480	485	+10		28.4	3.8	12.6	7,800	391	198	London	246	248	+1	17.1	6.9	12.2	1,200			
517	465	Borealis	505	512	+5		18.1	5.5	7.3	640	291	189	Martins & Spencer	181	184	+3	5.8	3.2	21.4	2,800			
753	703	Bess	757	767	+34		30.2	3.2	13.5	1,000	606	307	Midland	600	607		37.1	6.1	22.4	1,500			
433	411	Bechem	400	405	+5		17.1	3.8	10.0	5,000	925	447	Nat West	558	560		27.8	5.9	2.0	400			
713	621	Blue Circle	710	715	+4		24.0	4.2	10.1	1,200	392	401	P & O Dred	392	401		25.4	4.3	15.3	1,600			
350	328	BDO	321	334	+8		15.4	3.9	12.9	3,100	891	343	Pearson	602	603	-1	15.4	2.6	20.1	866			
245	219	Boots	241	244	+4		10.8	4.4	15.8	5,100	991	398	Pitt Rivers Bros	885	837	-1	21.4	3.4	16.8	2,000			
525	468	Br Aerospace	522	527	+5		32.4	3.3	11.1	1,200	348	182	Plessey	180	191	+9	18.1	4.8	12.0	1,400			
67	51	Br Gen	50 55				1.3	14.2			392	745	Prudential	745	747	+7	36.8	4.7	53.9	1,600			
741	698	Br Petroleum	740	743	+11		6.8	8.5	6.1	2,000	234	148	Racal Elect	187	189	-2	4.3	2.3	19.3	4,000			
216	188	Br Telecom	214	216	+5		11.2	5.2	12.6	5,000	598	467	Rank Org	537	540	+16	22.5	4.2	13.0	2,200			
172	155	Britoil	171	173	+2		9.3	5.4	1.6	1,300	900	734	Reckitt & Coleman	882	887	+18	23.7	4.8	2.0	400			
286	266	Britvic	280	286	+6		2.3	18.3		3,000	428	244	Sainsbury	423	424	+5	5.4	1.0	42.7	230			
738	298	Cable & Wireless	340	347	+13		7.2	2.1	18.8	9,500	791	392	RTZ	697	700		31.4	4.5	9.3	445			
192	172	Cadbury Schweppes	188	191	+2		7.2	4.6	22.2	2,000	540	385	Rover	412	415	+6	18.0	4.3	11.5	1,100			
584	444	Costa Victoria	488	492	+18		17.9	3.7	14.6	1,500	957	702	Royal Ind	855	857	+2	30.2	8.8	1.2	200			
197	257	Com Unit	190	198	+8		17.4	5.1		4,700	428	244	Sainsbury (J)	422	424	+3	8.4	2.0	24.6	897			
740	553	Corn Goldfields	700	707	+12		35.0	5.0	20.1	1,500	148	39	Seas	121	122	+1	5.0	4.1	15.7	3,000			
320	286	Courtauld	321	324	+8		10.2	3.2	10.9	2,200	395	300	Sedgwick Op	318	322	+4	17.1	5.3	18.5	503			
221	201	Dia Corp	214	222	+11		10.8	1.2	17.9	9,200	10	738	Shell	10	10	+1	9.9	24.0					
592	307	Diamond Sp	304	309	+4		4.8	1.3			230	129	Smith & Nephew	128	129	+5	3.7	21.9	1.0	500			
690	409	Fisons	595	604	+27		8.4	1.5	25.0	3,000	177	122	STC	178	179	+1	2.1	1.2	16.4	1,800			
594	789	Gen Accident	585	592	+7		34.3	4.1	21.1	988	894	547	Stan Chart	790	793	-2	46.4	5.8	38.8	188			
228	180	Glen	178	185	+7		1.3	3.3	71.5	8,000	259	272	Standard	271	272		27.1	6.1	16.0	1,000			
11	187	Glen	11 11				20.0	1.7		24.0	6,500	772	810	Sun Alliance	675	680	+15	27.5	4.1	61.0	1,300		
491	385	Grand Met	450	455	+13		14.8	3.2	23.1	3,200	102	72	TBS PJP	75	76		6.1	8.1		3,800			
11	194	GUS A	10 10				31.4	3.0	14.4	288	490	340	Tesco	385	387	+1	8.9	2.2	22.6	1,200			
582	757	GRE	758	762	+5		49.5	5.3	24.2	386	229	442	Thorn G4	490	494	+5	46.0	4.6					
385	255	GUN	250	263	+6		17.9	6.3	9.5	283	390	133	Travellers House	283	285		18.9	6.7	10.0	3,600			
255	214	Guthrie	209	224	+4		11.5	4.0	27.1	3,000	198	198	Trusthouse Forte	184	188	+5	70.1	2.8	18.3	460			
215	188	Hannan	188	200	+12		6.1	3.1	12.6	4,000	22	15	Unilever	21	21		69.1	4.3	19.9	1,600			
624	403	Hawthorley	400	408	+8		21.4	4.4	10.8	1,800	289	218	Unilever	289	291		50.1	2.8	19.9	183			
12	182	Imp Chem Ind	11 11				46.6	4.3	12.7	3,800	259	174	Wellcome	259	260	+18	3.0	1.8	31.9	2,500			
583	560	Jaguar	560	565	+5		12.7	2.3	11.5	1,700	825	385	Woodworth	700	705	+3	22.9	3.3	16.1	2,300			

TEMPUS

Sky is the limit for Horizon as profits start to take off

Up, up and away would seem to be an ironically apt slogan for Horizon Travel. The group has sacrificed short-term profitability for bigger volumes, together with all the attendant economies of scale so important in the holiday business.

And now, at the first whiff of a profits recovery, the sound of the predators' snapping jaws can be heard.

The preliminary results released yesterday showed trading profit for the 11 months to October 31, 1986 at £1.65 million - up by £3.6 million compared with a £2 million loss in the previous 12 months.

Horizon nearly doubled the number of holidays sold in 1986 to 633,000, reducing its loss in this business by £700,000 to £1.9 million.

Orion Airways moved from breakeven to a profit of £1.8 million as utilization rates increased and charter rates firmed.

About £1 million of last year's turnaround was attributable to the changed year end; November is traditionally a loss-making month. However, the underlying trend and outlook for this year seem very encouraging.

For all the British package holiday business, bookings for the summer of 1987 were up 37 per cent by the end of November. Horizon's bookings were up 118 per cent and the company estimates that its share of the market has risen from 7 to 11.2 per cent.

This year Horizon expects to sell 750,000 holidays, giving significant volume benefits.

Seat costs at Orion Airways will come down this year when the group takes delivery of two Airbus in April to replace two of its smaller 737s. A tight market also means that charter rates are moving up again.

Volumes, however, remain unpredictable at the margin and currency is still a significant unknown. Hence the wide range in the analysts' estimates of this year's pretax



profits from £4.5 million to £6 million.

But whether the prospective multiple is 14 or 25 - and much depends on the tax charge - there is a significant bid premium in the price. Even on the assumption of further recovery in 1988, the shares look overvalued on the fundamentals.

Mr Ron Brierley, the New Zealand entrepreneur, must be satisfied with his investment. He built up his shareholding of 17.5 per cent at a price believed to be less than 100p, compared with a price of 150p at present.

If he does not feel like precipitating a bid, he can afford to sell in the market at a discount and still show a profit.

Countryside

Properties

In the booming south-eastern housebuilding market, builders can do little wrong. And especially if, like Countryside Properties, they specialize in quality homes along the rich M25 commuter belt, their profits are safe as bricks and mortar.

Yesterday, the company unveiled a 64 per cent increase in pretax profits to £4.1 million, well above expectations, and the sixth successive year of record earnings. Turnover was little changed at £30.7 million.

The company completed roughly 400 homes with an average selling price of about

housebuilding sector is favoured by high demand and the bid battle for Bryanston Holdings suggests its attractions have not escaped predators.

Body Shop

International

Body Shop's remarkable growth shows no sign of abating. In less than three years on the stock market, the company has grown to a market capitalization of £73 million compared with a launch value of £4.75 million.

Befitting a company specializing in natural cosmetics, growth has been organic. Taxable profits last year were 79 per cent higher at £3.45 million, with earnings per share up by 102 per cent.

This year, the stockbroker Wood Mackenzie is forecasting profits of £5.25 million, an increase of 52 per cent. The rating will remain strenuous. The historic P/E ratio of 33 drops to a prospective around 22 assuming 37 per cent tax.

Given the company's record and the continuing expansion programme, the rating appears justified.

Future growth will be powered increasingly from overseas. Overseas turnover last year was £3.3 million out of total £17.4 million, but overseas outlets are estimated to take four to eight years to pay their way. Sweden, Australia and Canada all had an excellent year and fresher markets like Germany are improving strongly.

By the end of the current financial year Body Shops reckons it will have at least 200 outlets abroad compared with 168 now. British outlets should number 97 against 82 at present.

The franchising arrangement means that rapid expansion does not cause strain on either management time or capital resources.

While demand for the products seems to transcend national barriers.

UNLOCK THE SECRETS OF PENNY SHARE PROFITS

Did you know that there are thousands of men and women in this country quietly making money out of low priced Penny Shares?

Most of these people are private investors. Many of them started with just a few hundred pounds. Few had any previous stockmarket experience. Some never buy any other sort of share. What is the secret of their success?

FANTASTIC GROWTH RECORD

Sixteen out of last year's top twenty performing shares were Penny Shares. Here are a selection of the recent winners.

Share	from	to	gain
Noble & Lund	10p	101p	+910%
W A Holdings	4p	41p	+400%
Woodhouse-Rose	15p	75p	+400%
Snapperton	15p	168p	+1080%
Ashley Industrial	14p	89p	+528%
ACCEC	30p	125p	+316%
Tracer Kemsley	26p	115p	+342%
Brush Benzil	11p	83p	+654%
Unigroup	14p	120p	+757%
Spencer Clark	35p	172p	+391%

Imagine how much your capital would have increased if you had invested in any of these Penny Share winners. But where do you find them? - after all, shares do not rise in value just because they are low priced.

If you had the time, and the know-how you could isolate the potential winners and then complete a thorough investigation of the company.

Now there is an easier route to Penny Share success. Each month the Penny Share Focus team of analysts condense days of research into a six page no nonsense action guide. Its sole aim - to provide investors like you with opportunities for big capital gains. By carefully monitoring every Penny Share on the market - by collating masses of financial and company data - by making painstaking enquiries into the company's management, sometimes even visiting their offices, PENNY SHARE FOCUS helps you to spot the next Penny Share winner, and keeps you clear of the losers.

WHAT ARE PENNY SHARES? ...AND WHY IS THEIR RECORD SO GOOD?

A Penny Share is quite simply a share that you can buy for mere pennies. The shares are cheap because the City has lost confidence in the company's ability to make profits. It could be because of poor management, adverse trading conditions, or just plain bad luck. But the slump in the price of the shares means something has to be done - something has to change.

In some cases the company may be restructured, new management installed, new products launched, new ideas and techniques introduced. Alternatively, the company's shares may be so cheap that a rival company moves in to take them over. Or a successful private company might buy them out as a cheap way in to the stockmarket. Whatever happens, it's nearly always good news for the investor who was brave enough to buy when the company was down.

Remember, these companies are still trading and they often have quite sizeable assets. Apart from the very few that do go to the wall - and they're really surprisingly few - the only way a share price that has fallen to mere pennies can go up is up.

Join the Penny Share investors today and subscribe now to claim a discount of £20 off your first years membership subscription and be fully protected with our unique MONEY BACK GUARANTEE.

The editor of PENNY SHARE FOCUS has for more than ten years been the country's leading authority on Penny Shares - the man who spotted Wire and Plastic when it was just 27p, and then watched it rise to 54.70 - put another way, if you had invested just £500 in Wire and Plastic when he told you, that investment would now be worth more than £8,500!

You can now have access to this valuable information each month through the pages of PENNY SHARE FOCUS. In just 6 tightly written pages he reviews the latest news, recommends the hottest

[illegible]

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THE TIMES

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

In 1985 the Government initiated an engineering and technology programme to provide 4,000 extra undergraduate places, and when the Prime Minister later reviewed progress with leading industrialists and academics, the Engineering Council, supported by its industrial affiliates, was able to point out continuing shortages which were hampering Britain's industrial growth.

Production engineering and manufacturing systems engineering, mechanical engineering, electrical power engineering, instrumentation and control engineering were identified as the chief disciplines in which industry's demand for qualified manpower could not be met.

Manufacturing systems engineering was highlighted as the most pressing, and this is being actively encouraged.

Not only does the country require more engineers and technologists coming out of our universities and polytechnics but we need more students coming forward from the schools willing and able to take up the additional places.

A major slice of the council's work is involved with the young

for our future depends upon the young gaining a fascination for new technologies and the many facets of engineering.

We need in the schools good, enthusiastic teachers of mathematics and physics to teach the children. But there is still an acute shortage of teachers in those subjects. The Engineering Council has suggested several ways in which the current shortage could be alleviated to assist the Department of Education and Science in the development of a forward-looking policy in this crucial area:

● More interchange of personnel between industry and education, possibly through the establishment of an Engineering Council Teacher Fellowship scheme.

● The encouragement of women who taught these subjects in the past to return to teaching.

● Early returns from industry acting as technical back-up for teachers not qualified in maths and the sciences.

Raising the awareness of engineering among schoolchildren is the key to more, better educated engineers in the future.

Through our regional organization we are sending young enthu-



Britain badly needs more young engineers, and also the teachers who can impart skills, argues Kenneth Miller

siaic engineers into the schools to "open windows on engineering" for our young people and it is our aim to reach at least 80 per cent of the country's schools within five years in this way.

Engineering provides a wide range of stimulating, satisfying careers and there are plenty of opportunities for girls as well as boys. We are encouraging more engineers to be actively involved in schools, offering to serve on governing bodies or giving assistance to parent-teacher associations and to get across to young people these fundamental messages.

The annual Young Engineers for Britain competition attracts even more competitors with a wide range of imaginative projects. These are clear indications that when our young people are enthused with an interest in engineering they can produce novel ideas and products, some of which are eventually marketed.

We have been raising the standard of engineering education by laying down in detail the minimum standards professional engineers must reach and enhancing existing degree courses by introducing management subjects and insisting that design holds a

central rather than a peripheral position.

A comprehensive system through which engineers can gain professional status as chartered engineers, technician engineers and engineering technicians has been adopted in collaboration with the engineering institutions.

It sets the standards and is flexible enough to allow trainees to reach professional status through several different routes, whichever suits their circumstances.

We must replace training gained by time-serving and sitting by measured attainment of skills and standards. By climbing the ladders of industrial training and bridging with academic qualifications trainees can aspire to higher professional status.

The whole system for engineering education and training is monitored for the Engineering Council by nominating engineering institutions, which propose individuals for registration and some of which accredit educational courses and industrial training schemes on our behalf.

The professionalism of British engineers is now beginning to be recognized publicly abroad as well as at home. FEANI, The European

Federation of National Engineering Associations, which covers 20 countries, recently decided to introduce the new title "European Engineer", and our 200,000 chartered engineers, with seven years of education, training and experience behind them, should adequately meet the criteria for this new professional qualification.

Against a background of rapidly developing, ever-changing technology, it is not enough to ensure that our young engineers receive high initial standards of education and training. We must also accept that professional engineers will need continual updating and on-going training if they are to keep British industry at the cutting edge of modern technology where it can establish a lead over international competition.

The Engineering Council has called for urgent action to improve the woeful lack of industrial training. It is not enough simply to train people to manage new situations. We must also give our engineers the knowledge and skills to look into the future and propose novel products or techniques which will take the lead in world markets.

The Engineering Council is an independent organization with

300,000 chartered and technician engineers on its register and some 170 employers of engineers collaborating with us as industrial affiliates. These organizations are among the leading companies in the land and give us valuable advice and information about their engineering requirements as well as contributing financially.

We intend to seek the active help of many more employers of engineers as affiliates.

Industrial concerns should continually appraise their technical competence, to make sure that they are staying ahead and not slipping behind. We have produced guidelines to help them achieve this aim under the heading "Technical reviews for manufacturing, process and construction companies".

If worthwhile projects are to receive adequate finance there is also a need for the financial institutions to gain an understanding of how to appraise the quality of technical propositions and the engineering competence of a company. Here again we have been active in the publication of guidelines for this purpose.

Dr Kenneth Miller is Director General of The Engineering Council.

APPOINTMENTS PHONE: 01-481 4481 — APPOINTMENTS PHONE: 01-481 4481

BBC APPOINTMENTS

Radio Nottingham

PRODUCERS

The station's area is diverse: in addition to coal, you'll find pharmaceuticals, light engineering and textiles. Joining our committed seven-day week newsroom team, you will be compiling and reading bulletins and voice pieces, contributing ideas and material to the station's news and current affairs output. We look for good broadcasting skills and three years relevant experience. Salary £10,412 — £14,725* (Ref. 3172/T)

SPORTS REPORTER

We transmit to an area rich in sporting activity, from league football to the National Water Sports Centre, Ice Dance and ice hockey. You would be part of a small team providing seven-day coverage across the whole range of activities. In addition to three years relevant journalistic experience you will need a flair for interpreting sport to both the general audience and expert alike. Knowledge of sporting activities in our area would be an advantage. Salary £8,569 — £10,631* (Ref. 3173/T)

RESEARCHER

Television
Leeds

BBC TV Leeds requires a Researcher for 6 months in its Features Department, which produces documentaries for Network and Regional Television. You will work initially on a new regional current affairs series, but will also be expected to work as required on other aspects of the station's output.

You should have a background in journalism and be able to demonstrate a lively interest in Current Affairs. A working knowledge of the North would be an advantage. Current driving licence essential. Salary £8,576 — £11,100* (Ref. 1446/T)

Completed application forms should be returned by 18th January 1987.

Relocation expenses considered for permanent posts.

*Plus allowance of £1,020 p.a. *Plus allowance of £597 p.a. Contact us immediately for application form (quote appropriate ref. and enclose s.a.e.) BBC Appointments, London W1A 1AA. Tel. 01-227 5798.

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Candidates must have hands-on experience of computer systems and be fully-qualified accountants (ACA, ACCA, or ACMA) or passed finalists. You will

need a committed professional approach and must have the self-motivation and flexibility to work well under pressure.

Starting salary (currently under review) is up to £17,073, rising to a maximum of £19,195 and there are excellent prospects for career development.

For further information contact Andrew Wren on 01-356 4700. To apply, please write with full CV, to: Ann Hulbert, Management Recruitment Unit, British Telecom, Room 26/48, Euston Tower, 286 Euston Road, London NW1 3DG.

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British
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British Standards Institution STANDARDS INFORMATION & DOCUMENTATION

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BSI is actively involved in the creation and maintenance of Standards for information handling and storage and documentation procedures used in libraries, publishing and information science.

Our Technical Officers play a key role in the development of Standards through technical expert committees drawn from the full range of professional, commercial and user interests — they act as committee secretaries as well as managing projects and providing essential administrative back-up. In this particular post, work will concentrate initially on revision of the Universal Decimal Classification (UDC) system. We are looking for candidates with degree or corporate membership of a relevant professional body and previous experience in commerce or industry. We are especially interested in applicants with experience in information science who are familiar with data processing in the library/information context. Reading knowledge of French and German highly desirable. Benefits include 5 weeks holiday, compulsory pension plan etc. and relocation assistance may be paid in appropriate cases.

For more information and an application form, potential applicants are invited to contact:
Miss E. Macarthur Senior Personnel Officer
British Standards Institution
2 Park Street, London W1A 2BS
Telephone: 01-629 9000 Ext. 3066

Secretary

Association of County Councils
c. £50,000

The Association seeks a Secretary on the retirement of Mr John Stevenson in August. Reporting to the Executive Council of the Association, the Secretary has prime accountability for a staff of 65 and a budget of £1.6m: member County Councils have a total spend of £7.1bn. Candidates, who need not be from local government, must have an appreciation of the work and purpose of county councils; be able to demonstrate policy-making and managerial achievement; and be capable of maintaining and developing constructive relationships with national government, parliament, the Association's constituent authorities and other local government bodies. The salary will be c. £50,000 but it is not anticipated that remuneration will be a bar to the appointment of the right person.

Those wishing to nominate candidates for the post, or candidates themselves, are invited to apply for further information to John Smith, Director Public Appointments, ref. A.57020.

MSL Public Appointments, 52 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0AW.
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MSL Public Appointments

FISONS Group Headquarters

Internal Auditors

£ Negotiable

Fisons plc is a UK based multinational with an outstanding growth record over the last seven years. Worldwide sales of pharmaceuticals, scientific equipment and horticulture products continue to grow rapidly with 80% of sales being made overseas. The profitability of the Fisons Group has increased almost twenty-fold during the 1980's through both strong organic growth and the strategic acquisition of new businesses.

The Internal Audit team plays a key role in the Group's continuing success and is seen as a source of future, high calibre international line managers. Following recent promotions, we are seeking two suitably qualified candidates to join this team.

Ideal candidates will be finalists, or recently qualified accountants, who have completed their training with a multinational firm of accountants, or a substantial manufacturing or distribution company. You must be able to demonstrate a successful track record in understanding, developing and/or auditing complex computerised accounting and financial control systems, be able to work with

minimal supervision and be prepared to travel for up to 75% of the working year. A second European language would be an advantage.

Reporting to the Group Chief Internal Auditor, your responsibilities will include reviews of financial controls and reporting, computerised business systems, investigations and special projects. The ability to prepare recommendations for presentation to senior management and to communicate your ideas clearly at all levels is essential. Assignments will be in North and South America, UK, Europe, Australasia, Africa and the Indian sub-continent. Each assignment has a duration of approximately four weeks.

The salary will be commensurate with experience, plus normal large company benefits. Relocation assistance will be provided when necessary.

If this challenge appeals to you, please send a detailed CV to:

Mr. B. C. Barrett, Personnel Services Manager, Fisons plc, Fison House, Princes Street, Ipswich, Suffolk IP1 1QH.

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You should be a good judge of people with the confidence to project your personality in a marketing role and be a competent administrator.

You will need the mental agility to cope with a wide variety of tasks and will have the opportunity to become fully involved at a senior level as the company grows.

Applications are invited from candidates age 21-30 with at least 2 'A' levels, who have previously held both a secretarial and an executive job. Please apply with full CV and a contact telephone number before January 21 to Box No.D28.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF VICTIMS SUPPORT SCHEMES

Additional staff are now required at the National Office of this rapidly developing organisation:

Assistant Director: £15,000 p.a. approx., according to experience and qualifications. Experience of field practice and management in statutory or voluntary social work required. Fund Administrator: £14,000 p.a. approx., to oversee, administer and monitor new provision of grants to local Victims Support Schemes. Previous experience of grant-making or financial administration an advantage.

Computer Operator: £12,000 p.a. approx., to process financial and statistical data, reference library and filing on Apricot XI computer. Previous experience of data processing essential.

Secretary: £7,000, approx., according to experience and qualifications.

Job Descriptions and Application Forms available until 23.1.87 from:

NAVSS,
17A Electric Lane,
London, SW9 8LA
(Tel: 01-326 1084).

NEGOTIATORS

Our vigorous programme of expansion has created several vacancies offering excellent career prospects for the right combination of drive and initiative. Experience preferable but not essential. Car owner. Contact Annabelle Duncan-Smith (Fulham) on 01 726 6090, Karen Prior (Tooting) on 01 416 1161, Olina Fennell (Southfields) on 01 872 0181 or Pamela Gossage (Wandsworth) on 01 416 1211.

The Institute of Journalists (Incorporated by Royal Charter) Applications are invited for the post of GENERAL SECRETARY

which will be created by the present system of the Institute of Journalists on 19 August. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the Institute and will be required to act as a liaison officer between the Institute and the public. The post is a full-time position and will be held on a permanent basis. The successful candidate will be required to have a minimum of 10 years' experience in a similar position and to be a member of the Institute. Applications should be sent to the Secretary, The Institute of Journalists, 100 Strand, London WC2R 0AL.

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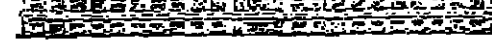
The brief covers half-yearly and year-end consolidations, monthly management accounts, cash flow and profit forecasts. You will also advise on taxation matters, and be involved in the Treasury function, including day-to-day cash management, and inter-company loans.

An ACA or ACCA, you must have gained relevant commercial experience in a sophisticated environment, plus a thorough knowledge of Corporation Tax.

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There are also excellent prospects of career development.

Please write with full c.v. to: Rosemary Martin, Personnel Manager, Selfridges Limited, 430 Oxford Street, London W1A 1AB.



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GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

Where are you going this year?

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"I enjoy working with a team of young professionals going places. Not only do I make my clients' money grow, but I've trebled my own income in just two years."

NIGEL HARPER
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"One aspect of teaching I particularly enjoyed was the opportunity of meeting people - the difference at Marlowe Sachs is that meeting people makes money!"



CATHERINE PORRO
Previously Graduate
"I never felt I was 'one of the pack' and the humdrum existence of a routine job with regular pay rises was not for me. At Marlowe Sachs I'm building a sound career with the freedom to earn what I'm worth."

ROGER TAYLOR
Previously Accountant
"In many ways I was contented enough with my life, but I felt I needed a challenge. At Marlowe Sachs my efforts, creative ability and individuality are appreciated and quickly lead to more tangible rewards!"

* Marlowe Sachs, a subsidiary of Navi-Baltic PLC, are intermediaries in the field of unit trusts, pensions, investments (onshore and offshore) and insurance.
* Our plans for 1987 are far-reaching and we are currently looking for independent, progressive individuals (25-40) to join our team of sales professionals in the city.
* Full training and technical support are provided, a good basic income package with commission structure and the chance to build a sound career in one of the most rapidly growing industries in the UK.

If you have the drive and determination to succeed - telephone 01-242 2420

MARLOWE SACHS
In Pursuit of Excellence

or contact:-
The Recruitment Manager
Marlowe Sachs
28 Greville Street
London EC2N 8SU

Director of Services

Up to £27,065

This is an opportunity to work at the Nature Conservancy Council's Great Britain Headquarters at Peterborough.
You will be responsible for the four HQ divisions of Policy and Planning, Finance and Establishments, Land, and Data and Information, as well as the Corporate Planning Branch and the Public Affairs Branch.
A proven capacity for leadership and management is required with appropriate experience. You must be capable of working with the highest levels of central Government, land managers and users and with scientific, professional and voluntary bodies.
Salary £23,730-£27,065 according to qualifications and experience.
For further details and an application form (to be returned by 29 January 1987) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 468551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: C/7088.

NATURE CONSERVANCY COUNCIL
An equal opportunity employer

WATNEY-MANN National Sales

GRADUATE TRAINEES

Looking for Rapid Advancement?
Throughout the UK c£8,000 + Incentives + Car
Watney Mann National Sales is part of one of the country's leading organisations, and has been market leader for several years. They have developed a portfolio of market leading brands and leaders with such instantly recognisable names as Webster's Yorkshire Bitter, Pilsener, Budweiser and Holsten.
In order to maintain dominance of the market they place the utmost importance on the quality of their sales force. Due to their continued policy of promotion they need to recruit several trainees throughout the UK for their mobile sales team. You will be responsible for increasing product distribution through the independent sector, selling of display material and providing sales cover on a temporary basis. Promotion to your own territory is expected within a maximum of 9 months dependent upon your abilities and speed of progress.
Great emphasis is placed on training and career development. Business initial selection standards are high and all applicants must display both the ambition and ability to progress into management. Candidates aged in their early 20's must be educated to degree standard, ideally with one year's commercial experience, locally mobile, confident, well presented and an excellent communicator.
Rewards will be in the form of a good basic salary, incentive scheme, car, pension and life assurance. However, candidates will primarily be attracted by the chance to join a market leading company that will develop their skills and offer genuine long term prospects.
If you can match our standards call PAUL COPCUTT on 01-541 1777

Watney Mann National Sales are the No.1 supplier to the Take-home Beer Market
THE NICHOLS CONSULTANCY LIMITED
EXECUTIVE SELECTION CONSULTANTS

GHANA GOVERNMENT FOREST PRODUCTS INSPECTION BUREAU

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons to fill a vacancy for a **TRAINING MANAGER**.
JOB DESCRIPTION:
1. The design and implementation of a continuous training programme for Timber Graders and Inspectors. Initially for FPB Staff, but ultimately extending to others in Ghana.
2. The systematic provision of examination and re-examination for certificated graders.
3. Participation as a Head of Department in the management of the Bureau.
4. Liaison with other centres of expertise in order to keep the Bureau abreast of the Technology and methods relevant to a professional timber grading service.
EXPERIENCE:
At least 10 years operational experience in the tropical hardwood industry specifically on grading and measurement of wood products in a reputable organisation.
SERVICE CONDITIONS:
Attractive salary and conditions of service will be offered.
CLOSING DATE:
31st January 1987.
METHOD OF APPLICATION:
Applications stating qualification, age, experience, names of three (3) referees and a comprehensive curriculum vitae should be sent to:-
The Chief Executive
FPB
Box 783, Takoradi - Ghana
Telex - 2189 Timbod GH
Overseas Applicants:
The Chief Executive FPB
c/o TEB
102 Park Street, London W1Y 3RJ
Telex: 21713/23934 Timbod G

Wir sind ein führendes Unternehmen für die Übersetzung und Erstellung mehrsprachiger Dokumentation und arbeiten für die mittelständische und die Großindustrie. Wir suchen ab sofort
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Thomas-Wimmer-Ring 15 - 8000 München 22 - F.R.G.
Tel. 089/22 66 36

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We require two Assistant Property Co-ordinators. Highly organised with genuine interpersonal skills. Applicants must possess a mature telephone manner and excellent typing and clerical skills. These are varied and responsible positions and offer an opportunity to join a major international service company. Applications in writing with cv to:
Mr I Payne
Merrill Lynch Relocation
136 New Bond Street
W1.

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required by small, upmarket Travel Company from end April to October 1987 in the following places:
SPANISH Manor House Hotel, Galicia, Karoni, Polopon, GREECE.
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Applicants must have 'O' level English, be over 23 years of age, and have fluent SPANISH, TURKISH or GREEK.
Write or Phone:
CRICKETER HOLIDAYS,
4 The White House,
Beacon Road,
Cromwell, E. Sussex.
TN6 1AB.
Tel: Crowborough (08926) 64242

DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

This old-established educational trust seeks a graduate (21-30) as **DEVELOPMENT OFFICER**, to improve promotion and develop new revenue-producing services.
Qualities needed: literacy, enthusiasm, tenacity, diligence, energy, and an easy manner. Knowledge of boarding schools would be helpful. Non-smoker preferred.
Applications with full C.V. and three referees (who will not be contacted without candidate's consent) to: Mrs Lucy Harrison BA Cered, The Trustees & Knights Educational Trust, 76/78 Notting Hill Gate, London W11 3LJ.

MARBELLA AND IBIZA

Large expanding International Marine Operators and Powerboat Dealers seeks person with good knowledge of Marine Industry and Sales. We offer first class products and back up service. This position offers great possibilities for promotion. Spanish / German preferable but not essential. Salary & commission negotiable.
Please write with CV and details to:
Sara Dubarry,
Marina Marbella,
Puerto Pesquero,
Marbella,
Malaga, Spain,
or phone
Spain (34) 52 777098/9.

General Sales Manager

The person we are looking for will already have an extensive knowledge of the industry both in wholesale and retail and have a proven track record in both areas. The position carries full responsibility for sales to the company and would progress to Sales Director in the near future having been successful in this position. Salary and benefits negotiable.
Please write with full cv. in confidence to Box G29

Redwood Publishing is looking for a CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENT REPRESENTATIVE

to build on the established features in INTERCITY and AIRPORT magazines. You must be self-motivated and able to work on your own. Experience of classified selling essential. Salary good, depending on experience.

Send cv. or call Debbie Lo Piccolo, 141-143 Drury Lane, London WC2B 5TF. Tel: 01-836 2441

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS CJA

35 New Broad Street, London EC2M 1NH
Tel: 01-588 3588 or 01-588 3576
Telex No. 887374 Fax No. 01-256 8501
A demanding position - scope exists to become Sales Director within 5-10 years
NATIONAL FIELD SALES MANAGER - AUDIO VIDEO TAPES
WEST HERTFORDSHIRE
SALES ORGANISATION OF A MAJOR INTERNATIONAL MANUFACTURER OF AUDIO VIDEO TAPES
We invite applications from candidates, aged 30-45, who have acquired a minimum of 7 years practical sales experience in consumer products or consumer durables, and at least 3 years successful experience of running a National sales force utilising modern sales methods. The successful candidate will manage a sales force through a Northern and Southern Sales Manager, covering the UK, selling mainly to established clients in retail or wholesale. Up to 50% of time will be spent in the field and 25% away travel will be necessary. The ability to further increase market share of a product renowned for its quality, through excellent management, is key to the success of this appointment. Initial salary negotiable, £20,000-£28,000, + car, contributory pension, free life insurance, free family BUPA, assistance with removal expenses if necessary. Applications in strict confidence under reference NISM 44687T, to the Managing Director: CJA.
CAMPBELL-JOBSTON ASSOCIATES (MANAGEMENT RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS) LIMITED, 35 NEW BROAD STREET, LONDON EC2M 1NH.
TELEPHONE: 01-588 3588 OR 01-588 3576. TELEFAX: 01-256 8501

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Our clients are special. In recent years, they've taken what can only be described as a revolutionary approach to the management of their extensive and diverse portfolio of freehold properties in the Central Home Counties. The approach has centred on the creation of four dynamic, multi-disciplined teams in the field, each responsible for a major sector of that portfolio and for the control of a part of an annual planned preventative maintenance budget of over £12m; and a further team at Head Office which provides a consultancy service to the others. So successful has their industry initiative been and so much potential does it promise, that the teams are now developing - and a fundamental aspect of this development

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LONDON AND MANCHESTER

AMERICAN AIRLINES INC Requires a PERSONNEL MANAGER Based in Central London

Our ideal applicant will have had at least three years' experience working for a US multi-national company. Familiarity with practices in the UK, France and Germany is essential.
They should hold a recognised personnel qualification and must be willing to travel extensively.
Attractive salary plus the usual benefits associated with a major airline.
CV applications only please to:
Department TF
Room 501
North Office Block
Gatwick Airport
Horley
Surrey

TATE & LYLE TECHNICAL SERVICES IRRIGATION & CIVIL ENGINEER

Tate & Lyle Technical Services provides a comprehensive and integrated range of management and consultancy services to agricultural and related industrial projects throughout the tropical and sub-tropical world.
We are looking for a chartered engineer to assist with Irrigation and Civil Engineering input to existing technical assistance and project implementation contracts. In due course there will be opportunities to take management responsibilities. The Engineer will also be involved with the development and operation of computerised management systems and with selling the Company's services. The work will require overseas travel and perhaps longer term secondment to operating contracts.
Applicants must have varied experience, particularly in developing countries, of water resources, irrigation, hydraulics, civil/structural design and construction, and rural development. An interest in and aptitude for agricultural development, together with a commercial approach is essential.
Please address enquiries, including a CV to:
Mr R Davey
Manager Irrigation and Civil Engineering
Tate & Lyle Technical Services
Enterprise House
45 Homedale Road
Bromley
Kent BR2 9TE

CLOSING DATE FOR POLICE GRADUATE ENTRY SCHEME. JANUARY 16TH.

Because of the complex problems of today's society the Police have an increasing need for highly qualified men and women.
The 'Graduate Entry Scheme' is designed for people considered to have the potential for accelerated promotion to the rank of Inspector and beyond early in their career.
You may apply if you are a graduate, or in the final year of any full-time degree course. You must normally be under 30 years of age and meet the physical requirements.
To discover more about a Police career, and salary levels, contact your Careers Adviser or send in this coupon.
But don't delay. Final closing date for applications is 16th January 1987.

To: Supr. Andrew Jones BSC, Room 553, Home Office, Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1W 7AT
Please send me your booklet on Careers for Graduates in the Police.

Name _____
Address _____
University/Politechnic/College _____
My Degree Course _____
Ends _____
P O L I C E O F F I C E R
T/C/87

RHM FOODS

Home Economist c. £10,000

RHM Foods Ltd, one of the leading Grocery Companies in the UK, marketing well known brands such as McDougal's Flour, Bisto, Pazo and One Cal, require an experienced Home Economist to be based at their Head Office in North West London.
Reporting to the Technical Development Controller, the Home Economist will be responsible for developing new and imaginative recipes for the Company brands, for monitoring competitive products, for preparing dishes for presentation and photography and for dealing efficiently with customer enquiries. The job will involve working closely with Senior Marketing Managers and New Product Development Technologists across the Division, but the Home Economist must also be confident in managing and planning the department and workload at an independent level.
If you are enthusiastic and talented, have a degree or HND in Home Economics with a minimum of three years experience in the food manufacturing industry and are interested in this position, please telephone 01 985 6565 x 3038 for an application form or write giving details of age, education, career to date and current salary to Janet Kelsey, Personnel Department, RHM Foods Ltd, 10 Victoria Road, London NW10 6NU.

INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE SEARCH CONSULTANCY

A CAREER CHANGE OPPORTUNITY
£15,000 - £20,000
Heidrick and Struggles is one of the world's top three executive search consultancies. The London practice is spearheading a major European expansion programme which necessitates the appointment of further trainee consultants. The work involves the gathering of business intelligence and contact with senior executives in industry and commerce.
Candidates should be articulate, presentable graduates, aged 25/30, with a keen interest in business plus drive and energy. You must have initiative and enjoy the pressures of a fast moving, demanding environment. Fluency in a European language is desirable.
Write with full details to:
Dr John Viney
Managing Partner
Heidrick and Struggles International
25-28 Old Burlington Street
London W1X 2BD.

PROJECTS ENGINEER

required immediately for LAGOS, NIGERIA.
Experienced in all aspects of fire fighting/protection equipment and fixed installation systems. Strong admin. background. Pref. age 40+ with overseas experience. Excellent terms and conditions.
Applications in writing enclosing c.v. to:
S.G. Freeman,
94 Gloucester Place,
London W1H 3DA.

OPENINGS IN ART

Small Fine Art Publishing Company in Clapham with gallery in Chelsea seeks career orientated persons in Production and Sales.
Non smoking. Driving.
RING 01 720 4987.

Could you RENT Kensington Homes?

We need a self-motivated, car driving, Results Executive in our Rental Department. Drive and personality are more important than experience.
CALL SUZANNE ON 01 3623 9 am to 6.30pm
SAUNDERS OF KENSINGTON.

MANAGERESS / MANAGER REQUIRED

Run large prestigious city wine bar, Mice to PM, two early evenings only. Aged 25 to 35. Management experience essential. Circa £12,500 per annum.
Reply with CV to BOX 648.

WINE MERCHANTS

Lively independent wine merchants seeking young wine enthusiasts. Offer full training and commission. Reply to: Roger Hanson & Co., 17 Lutter Street, London EC1A 3JH. 01-762 7476

APPOINTMENT

Position for Assistant Systems
MECHANIC ENGINEERS LO
LUXURY LETS LO
Tel for appointment

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS



Position for: Assistant Director of Information Systems and Computer Services

Kuwait Airways has an opening for the above position.

The selected candidate will assist the Director of Information Systems and Computer Services, in managing the Kuwait Airways Systems.

The Department is now running four IBM compatible CPU's running on VM/MVS and DOS/VSE. The department also runs the Kuwait Airways IN-HOUSE Airline reservation system (RESKU) under IBM ACP. The department is embarking on major enhancements and additions to its current systems.

Candidate should have B.C.S. degree in Computer with a (12) years experience in Management of information systems in large installations as well as experience in planning and implementing major information and also automation systems.

Last date for submitting applications will be
31st January 1987.

Please apply (in confidence) to the following address:

Kuwait Airways Corporation
Personnel Dept.
P.O. Box 394 Safat
13004 Kuwait

WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS IS MORE SATELLITES. BUT HOW MANY?

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£22,000
Home Counties

LBW

LOCKYER, BRADSHAW & WILSON LIMITED
A Division of Advertiser Recruitment & Training Ltd.

The worldwide demand for satellites is growing rapidly. But, with more organisations than ever entering the market, success is becoming as dependent on maintaining the competitive edge as it is on sheer technical excellence.

Hence the need for our client, a home counties-based space systems organisation, to attract a Bid Preparation Specialist who can head a team responsible for market analysis and targeting of business opportunities through to award of contract.

A demanding role which requires substantial skills in customer liaison and bid preparation, plus the ability to think on a global scale.

Qualities which make it certain that applicants will have an engineering or technology-based degree and substantial technical management experience plus, ideally, both an MBA and a European language.

In return for which, there will be a salary of up to £22K plus a broad range of benefits including, if appropriate, assistance with relocation.

For consideration please send your c.v. to Craig Murray at the address given below, and quoting ref. CRS 471. Companies to which you do not want your details sent should be listed in a covering letter. Lockyer, Bradshaw & Wilson Ltd. 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 3LH.

British Institute of Professional Photography



APPOINTMENT OF GENERAL SECRETARY

The BRITISH INSTITUTE OF PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY which is the qualifying body for professional photographers and photographic technicians, is inviting applications for the vacancy that will arise with the retirement of its General Secretary at the end of August 1987.

The General Secretary, assisted by a staff of seven, based in offices in Ware, Hertfordshire, is responsible to the Council of the Institute for implementing its policies, providing advice to members, servicing Committees, liaising with Government Departments, Colleges of Education, Trade, Consumer and other organisations.

With the assistance of the Marketing and Training Manager, the General Secretary is also responsible for marketing professional photography and for providing professional training courses and workshops.

Previous experience of running an Association; knowledge of the photographic industry and/or commercial law, while not essential, would be an advantage.

Salary £15,000+ according to experience.

Apply for application to Mrs. D. Prior at British Institute of Professional Photography, Amwell End, Ware, Herts, SG12 9HN or telephone Ware (0920) 4011.

FIAMASS SUCCESS Let it include you!

Success is more than a word at Fiamass - it is reality. We've seen tremendous growth in our business due to the pursuit of one simple objective - the delivery of superior services designed to help clients manage risk, improve market timing, and enhance overall trading results. Our success is very real, and it could offer your career the same successful opportunities and rewards.

With Offices in London, Paris, Chicago, and New York, Fiamass offers a comprehensive range of services, including a powerful analytical computerised trading tool, financial futures trading, money management programs, trading and hedging decision techniques, and quality trading programs.

Having found the formula for success, Fiamass is committed to the expansion of its presence in the market place, and is now looking for professionals of high calibre, with a dedicated and creative approach to the market place, and commitment to the continued growth of a company that generously rewards its staff.

Director of Training Programs. This is a key role for someone with an in-depth knowledge of the financial futures markets and the desire to create, manage and develop successful trading programs. It demands a particular combination of enterprise as the ability to teach, manage people, sell and recruit and place trainees is essential.

Director of Sales & Marketing. We are seeking an aggressive leader to define and implement marketing strategies for future growth. Experience in the marketing of financial services is desired along with an advanced business degree.

Desk Manager. This is a position for candidates with 5+ years experience in institutional trading with an emphasis in the financial futures markets. The commitment, training, and mentoring of all desk traders as well as generating new business are primary responsibilities.

Account Executive. This is a position for a "team-player" who can sell in a "consultative" manner to various institutional and corporate accounts. Knowledge of the brokerage industry is a plus.

Consider the advantages of bringing your talents and knowledge to Fiamass by sending a full cv and letter expressing interest to:

FIAMASS LTD.
PARK HOUSE
15 FIDELITY CIRCUS
LONDON, ENGLAND, EC2M 7DJ
ATTENTION: DENISE WHITNEY

CATCH 22

CONTROLLER/CO-ORDINATOR

We are an expanding Employment Agency with several offices in central London. As part of our expansion we require a lively, confident individual primarily a graduate with work experience. As a controller you will develop our business, recruit, manage and motivate a team of temporary staff.

We offer a positive opportunity coupled with a salary based upon experience a bonus scheme and benefits.

Send CV to: OPTICAL WORKS LTD., 32 The Mall, Ealing, London W5 3TJ

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Send CV to: OPTICAL WORKS LTD., 32 The Mall, Ealing, London W5 3TJ

LUXURY LETS LONDON LTD

Require experienced residential letting negotiator to join our expanding and highly successful team in St Johns Wood. Applicants must have experience and a good knowledge of central London. Top salary plus commission, use of company car.

Tel for appointment: 01-328 9846

CHARITIES ADMINISTRATION

The Clothworkers' Foundation, a major grant making charity, seeks an additional assistant to help with its increasing work and with administering the affairs of a large number of Charitable Trusts.

The person selected will deal primarily with grants to young people seeking financial support for their post-school educational advancement. Applicants (preferred age 35-45) should be experienced in working with young people and should have an up-to-date knowledge of the educational grant system including the scale of state awards, regulations as to entitlement, qualifying courses, parental contributions etc.

This is a permanent post for which the salary will be in the region of £12,000 per annum together with generous non-contributory pension and other benefits after an initial period of satisfactory service.

Applications, with full Curriculum Vitae and details of relevant work experience to:

The Assistant Secretary, The Clothworkers' Foundation, Clothworkers' Hall, Dunster Court, Mincing Lane, London EC3R 7AH.

HOT AIR BALLON COMPANY

Seeks athletic young crew for European operation May to October. Must have clean driving licence and fluency in French or German.

Send CV and photo to Buddy Bombard, 6727 Caran Street, McLean, Virginia 22101, USA.

Chief Executive

c£30,000

1987 sees the launch of a new association which will cater for the interests of over 300 independent hospitals throughout the country.

We are seeking someone with experience of Health care management whose responsibility it will be to promote the work of the association to Government bodies, the media, health care organisations and other interested parties. Additionally the chief executive will provide an information and advisory service to members and the board. This is very much a pro-active role, therefore applicants must possess highly tuned interpersonal skills coupled with first class administrative abilities.

Applications with full personal and career details and giving two references, should be sent to Jennifer Priestley, Chairman, IHA, 15 Southampton Place, London, WC1A 2BU, by 31st January 1987.

A GROWING

Commercial Systems company, allied to a major computer manufacturer, seek senior sales individuals in both MANCHESTER and WEST LONDON.

This company, associated with a public concern with a worldwide turnover in excess of £350 million, invites you to make a significant contribution to company decisions and destiny. Further more, the right candidate will - having proved his value to the company - assume a greater responsibility within the organisation.

Your rewards will be commensurate with your success, and commence with a salary package of at least:

£36,000 O.T.E.

and includes the choice of a good 2 Litre Car (BMW, SAAB, etc.) plus large company benefits (BUPA, & INSURANCE).

For more reasons why you should apply, please contact:

Mrs Judy Wright
T.V.C.A. Computer Appointments
London House, 105 High Street,
Shepperton, Middx TW17 9BL

TEL: Watton-on-Thames (0932) 244814

Member of the Federation of Recruitment and Employment Services



Head of Marketing

Financial Services
Newcastle upon Tyne, c £25,000,
Quality Car, Mortgage Subsidy



The Northern Rock Building Society, with assets in excess of £1,650 million and an outstanding record of profitable growth, has attained a dominant market position in the North East of England. Recent legislative changes have extended the business domain of the organisation and the requirement is now for a senior marketing professional to spearhead the development of this significantly expanded product-market opportunity base. Managing a new and enthusiastic team, responsibility is for the conception, implementation, development and control of marketing strategies which will further enhance the range of financial sector services and products in this competitive but dynamic environment. As a member of the senior management team you will also have considerable involvement in the strategic policy formulation process of the Society. Candidates aged under 40 and qualified either professionally or to graduate level, will be high calibre, creative entrepreneurs with a proven track record in a senior marketing capacity. Ideally gained in the financial services sector. First class leadership and communication skills are essential in this challenging and exciting role, where prospects for advancement are excellent. Male or female candidates should submit in confidence a comprehensive c.v. or telephone for a Personal History Form to: K.H. Thompson, Hoggett Bowers plc, 4 Mosley Street, NEWCASTLE, NE1 1DE. 081-232 7455. Quoting Ref: 46110/T.

Hoggett Bowers

Executive Search and Selection Consultants

Commercial Officer

£13,855 to £17,452 p.a. inc.



British Electricity International Limited (BEI) is a wholly owned subsidiary company of the Electricity Council and provides overseas consultancy services to Governments, electricity supply undertakings and other organisations, utilising the resources and experience of the UK Electricity Boards.

The post is in the Commercial Branch which is responsible for the production of proposals and contracts. The work involves the drafting of commercial terms, the preparation of prices and the formulation of policy.

You should have good knowledge and experience of contracting in an international market including associated legal, credit insurance, bonding and taxation aspects. Overseas work experience is desirable.

Please write in confidence, giving details of career to date and present salary quoting reference 137/TT to: David Webb, Recruitment Officer, The Electricity Council, 30 Millbank, London SW1P 4RD.

The offices of BEI are located at Westminster Tower, 3 Albert Embankment, London SE1

The Electricity Council and BEI have an equal opportunity policy

MAP LIBRARIAN

... as principal adviser on the Library's cartographic collections, records and services. You will promote the collections nationally and internationally. You will be responsible for management of the Map Library and for policy on selection, cataloguing and preservation.

You must have a high level of cartographic, geographical and historical knowledge, preferably demonstrated by publication, and a proven ability to manage people and activities. Experience of map curatorship at a professional level is desirable. Library and/or language qualifications would be advantageous.

Salary according to qualifications and experience: £19,455-£25,765.

Relocation expenses up to £5000 may be payable.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 25 January 1987) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JF, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 486551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: G/T075.

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The British Library



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For a free confidential discussion

Tel. Richard Parkey 01-434 0511

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Premier House, 77 Oxford Street, W1R 1RB.
Tel: 01-434 0511

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

1987 Graduates for Business Systems Development International Finance

From £12,000 plus benefits

With assets exceeding \$70 billion and a network that stretches around the globe, J. P. Morgan is a world leader in international finance. We have offices in all the leading financial centres of the world and our reputation has been built on providing high quality, innovative services.

To expand these services, we are continuing to invest in advanced computer systems and maximise our use of the latest technology. As a result, we have 25 vacancies for exceptional 1987 graduates, or those with up to 2 years' work experience.

Your good honours degree may be in any discipline, but you must have a record of achievement that extends beyond the purely academic. Your individual creativity must be balanced by your ability to work in a team. Morgan development teams create sophisticated systems to help solve complex financial problems. So we look for a rare combination of technical facility, business awareness and communication skills.

Naturally, you cannot expect to solve the most complex problems without training, so your first six months at Morgan will be spent enjoying some of the finest and most demanding training in the industry. From the start you will be alternating periods of work on live projects with courses on finance and systems. At Morgan, we expect knowledge and ability to be turned quickly into results.

After the training programme, you will be assigned to your first permanent project. From then on, the pace and direction of your career is up to you. We don't believe in holding down high flyers.

You will receive an annual starting salary of at least £12,000, with a review after six months and you will have an impressive package of benefits including a mortgage subsidy and a profit-sharing bonus.

If the prospect of combining creativity with technology fascinates you, send a resume or Standard Application Form with a concise covering letter giving reasons why you are interested in our business to: Jenny Clark, Systems Recruitment, The Morgan Bank, P.O. Box 161, 1 Angel Court, London EC2R 7AE. Please quote reference T.G./1. Closing date for applications is 23 January 1987.

The Morgan Bank

Finance Director

c£18,000

Our Client is a large Christian organisation with a nationwide teaching and evangelistic ministry, especially among young people. Based in London, the Finance Director will be responsible, through managers, for all aspects of accountancy, finance, property, computing and other support services, including personnel. As a senior member of the management team, he or she will contribute to the development of appropriate strategies for the continued effectiveness and growth of this progressive missionary society. Candidates, aged 35-55, must be qualified accountants and hold evangelical Christian convictions.

Please apply to: Sir Timothy Hoare, Career Plan Ltd, Chichester House, Chichester Rents, Chancery Lane, London, WC2A 1EG. Tel: 01-242 5775.

Career plan
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Turin based company, leader in the field of auto design and engineering seeks a Senior Designer for its body interiors department. The successful candidate should have already gained considerable experience in this sector and be familiar with all aspects of interior design. Please send to Asterisco complete c.v. quoting on both letter and envelope T. 1227. All applicants will receive a reply.

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Age Concern England is seeking a successor to David Hobman, its Director since 1970, who will be retiring in June.

The person appointed will need to combine managerial, developmental, and communication skills with considerable drive and energy. He/she will already be holding a senior appointment, is likely to have direct experience of the voluntary sector, and must demonstrate a clear grasp of the issues affecting older people now and in the future.

Salary from £23,000 (including London weighting).

Application form and further information from:-

The Director's Office,
Age Concern England,
Barnard Surley House,
60 Piccadilly Road,
Mitcham, Surrey CR4 3LL.
Closing date February 2nd.

Age Concern England is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

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Please write enclosing a full CV to: Claire Sibthorpe, Personnel Department, Arthur Young, Rolls House, 7 Rolls Buildings, Fetter Lane, London EC4A.



Arthur Young

Your next good idea

Personnel Officer Overseas Assignments

£12,237 to £14,871 pa inc.

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You should have the ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing and have had several years experience of working in a personnel environment. Some experience of recruiting staff for overseas assignments and/or studies towards IPM or a similar qualification would be an advantage.

Please write in confidence, giving details of career to date and present salary, quoting reference 105/TT to: David Webb, Recruitment Officer, The Electricity Council, 30 Millbank, London SW1P 4RD.

The Electricity Council and BEI have an equal opportunity policy.

DIRECTOR - CONSULTANCY SERVICES WINDSOR

Options or a limited amount of Equity could be available to the appointed candidate who must have current human resources consultancy experience, the stature to contribute to, and assist in, the development and expansion of the Group which celebrates its 10th anniversary this year. There are extensive international services in executive search, organisation development, remuneration and benefits consultancy and an advertising agency.

Initially please telephone or write to Sharon Selmes at Barnett Consulting Group Limited, Providence House, River Street, Windsor, Berkshire, SL4 1QT. Windsor (0753) 856723



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Applicants are required to send their resumes and all supporting documents, before February 1st, 1987, to the following address:

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Kuwait Airways Corporation
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London
EC2R 6BS



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GENERAL CREDIT FINANCE (UK) LTD.,
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TELEPHONE: (01) 588 9498

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The Trust is a company limited by guarantee without share capital and is a registered charity. The present Administrator and Company Secretary will retire on the 31st October 1987 and the Trust is seeking to appoint an Administrator/Secretary on 1st July 1987 with a view to taking over the full responsibilities of the post on 1st November 1987. The person appointed must (a) have an understanding of company accounts although not necessarily be a qualified accountant, (b) be able to undertake the duties of company secretary of the Trust and of its subsidiaries, (c) be able to liaise with financial institutions and other bodies and (d) have an understanding of the special administrative requirements of charities. Salary will be on a University Administrative Grade III - at present £14,870 rising to £16,625 per annum with an increase pending. Universities Superannuation Scheme. Further particulars of the responsibilities and duties of the post may be obtained from the Administrator of the Trust. Applications giving full curriculum vitae and including the names and addresses of two persons to whom reference may be made should be sent to:

The Director,
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HORIZONS

A guide to job opportunities

Cash benefits for high-fliers

In his influential book *The Gods of Management*, Professor Charles Handy points out that professionals are paid according to the contribution their skills make, rather than length of service or loyalty.

Another feature of professional firms is that they have a shallow management structure, sometimes simply partners. In those circumstances bright and ambitious people will want to be compensated in money and benefits for more limited opportunities below the very top.

Apart from the spectacular, and possibly temporary, phenomenon of Porsches being dished out to young analysts in the City, there are already many signs that something of this kind is becoming more widespread.

However, as is usually the case, wider trends in the structure of employment are being disguised as reactions to purely economic circumstances. A major factor here is that the reduction in inflation has made it possible to award much more meaningful merit increases than was the case when cost-of-living percentage rises, alone, went well into double figures.

The law of supply and demand has also reasserted itself in the British executive job market, after a long slack period.

"Employers are becoming less concerned with structures, norms and averages and more concerned with attracting and retaining the right individuals," says Barry Currow of Hay-MSL, one of the many consultancies who report that devising more flexible remuneration policies for their clients is a growing part of their work.

The law of supply and demand, now

back at the top in

business, can mean

richer rewards, says

Godfrey Golzen



High pay for high-tech at the Stock Exchange.

for companies, though, care has to be taken to divorce them from salaries. Otherwise those who are paid the most tend to get the largest amount of bonus money, irrespective of their actual contribution.

Another problem is that not everyone in an organization is in a job where performance can be justified in the most basic terms. How, for instance, do you evaluate functions like research and development or personnel management?

"It's a question of finding a variety of criteria to fit the circumstances," says Ron Scott, the Blinder Hamlyn pay specialist. "For instance someone working in a service function could be judged on whether he's meeting an agreed set of objectives. A personnel department might be assessed on its effectiveness in reducing staff turnover. The important thing is to see that everyone understands and sticks to the rules."

The system should also be audited every so often to ensure that it's keeping up with changes in technology, working

practices and, of course, market rates for equivalent jobs.

Mr. Scott points out that there are pitfalls attached to straightforward incentive payments. "They can be a barrier to trying things that have a cost attached to them, like innovation in products or exploring new markets."

Michael Armstrong, a director of Book Club Associates, and himself the author of a standard work on salary administration, also points to the difficulty of attributing achievement to individuals in precise terms. "Most things in a company are a team effort," he says. "For instance salesmen can't be effective unless they have the right product at the right time and price."

For this reason BCA seldom pay bonuses, but conduct salary reviews on the basis of how good people are, and how hard they're trying. Armstrong admits this can be a subjective judgement, but says it can always be checked against external market factors. "The right salary may be what people are prepared to move for, though it's worth bearing in mind that some firms who pay highly are also fairly ruthless about getting rid of executives quickly."

The way remuneration levels and methods are determined, in fact, often relates to individual corporate cultures as much as market rates. When Jim Osler became director of retail services at the brewery Taylor Walker, one of his first jobs was to try and impose some order on what had become a chaotic variety of ways of paying some 700 pub managers, who were a mixture of

Brewers bought out unwanted practices

employees and licensed sub-contractors, and a staff of 3,500.

Basic pay was low and all sorts of unofficial practices had developed, some of them undesirable, to make up for this. Mr Osler began by setting some performance criteria. These were geared to the circumstances of individual pubs because, clearly, some outlets had greater potential than others.

"We made the targets readily attainable and a proportion of the reward for reaching them was then incorporated in the salary." Essentially they bought out the practices they wanted to remove.

before bringing in new incentive schemes that would fit the wide variety of conditions under which Taylor Walker's pubs operate.

"What we wanted to establish was that the interests of central management and pub managers coincided, so our bonus system now is based on achieving divisional as well as individual targets."

Like James Cooke, Jim Osler is a believer in ad hoc rewards as well as systematic ones. "A dinner for a man and his wife, with champagne all laid on by the company, is a nice and highly effective way of rewarding achievement," he says, and such signals are further augmented by "gold cards" for merit sent out when something particularly good catches his eye.

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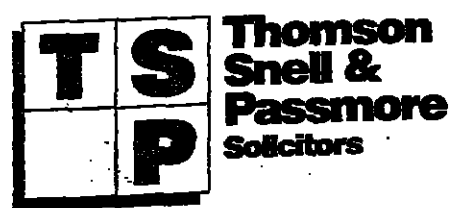
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You would be involved in liaising between a team of traders and the Senior Trader and assisting in co-ordinating the team's day-to-day work.

Confidence, maturity and a good command of English are essential. You must be capable of supervising and co-ordinating a team of secretaries, a good communication skills are essential.

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SECRETARY +

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Our Head of Client Services & Marketing spends 50 per cent of his time on business abroad, which certainly helps to boost our profits margin but leaves him with a problem - he needs someone based in London to take on a full and responsible secretarial role. A person, who will become immersed in the day-to-day business and, during his absence, will know when to take action and where to go for advice and information.

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This is an excellent opportunity to join one of the world leaders in investment management. The starting salary will be in the region of £10,500 p.a. and "large bank" benefits include a mortgage subsidy, bonus, non-contributory pension scheme and BUPA.

Please reply with a full cv, to Mary Thom, Personnel Manager, P.P. Morgan Investment Management Inc., 53 Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5BS.

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As a young Personnel Executive, reporting directly to the Financial Director, you will take responsibility for the Personnel function. Duties will include preparing the groundwork for a recruitment base (which includes the sales force) as well as that of administration, corporate policies and procedure, record keeping, company cars, pensions, training and other personnel related duties.

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LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

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United Kingdom Operation

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Relational Technology is looking for a first class PA secretary reporting directly to the Managing Director.

We are seeking a highly experienced PA secretary with excellent secretarial skills who possesses the business acumen to assess priorities, to see every issue through to its final conclusion and become involved in the day to day running of the UK operation. Previous experience in the high technology field is preferred.

This position situated in superb offices in Chelsea, London, offers an extremely attractive salary, non contributory pension in BUPA, a contributory pension scheme and four weeks annual holiday.

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As well as good shorthand and typing the Secretary should have an aptitude for working with wordprocessors and computers. Other duties will involve arranging meetings, travel, handling own correspondence and general office administration. Good communication skills, tact and diplomacy are essential skills as he/she will be dealing with highly confidential information.

A friendly and outgoing personality will also be called for.

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QUALIFIED ACCOUNTANT

RACING

Welsh Warrior should continue Turnell's revival off handy mark

By Mandarin

Andy Turnell's fortunes have taken a distinct turn for the better since Christmas with the victories of Tawdrige, Kittinger and Maori Venture. At Lingfield this afternoon, Welsh Warrior can continue the revival by winning the Southern Counties' Handicap Hurdle.

Last season Turnell's horses were badly affected by the virus with the result that he trained only four winners. Happily, though, after a slow start to the current campaign, the stable is now running in to peak form and last season's tally has already been bettered.

Welsh Warrior was a good novice two seasons ago when Turnell was still training at Ogbourne Maizey. That season he finished fourth in the Waterford Crystal Supreme Novices' Hurdle after gaining Newbury and Windsor victories. At Newbury he had good horses such as Ten Plus and Gala's Image behind him.

Having finished nearer last than first in his only race last season and his two runs in the autumn, Welsh Warrior now figures on an attractive mark and he should be a contender for the Boxing Day at a return to his best form was imminent.

Backed from 20-1 to half those odds, Welsh Warrior

Inspection at Taunton

With frost forecast overnight, the Taunton stewards are holding a precautionary inspection at 8am to see if today's meeting can go ahead. Racing could have taken place at the Somerset course yesterday. No inspection is planned at Lingfield Park.

Today's Irish meeting at Puncrustown hinges on a 'fau' inspection. Racing would not have been possible there yesterday because Tuesday night's frost was too slow to clear.

Today's opposition looks far from formidable and Welsh Warrior is a confident choice to fulfil the promise of that eye-catching Kempton run.

However, he faces with

Gold Tycoon and Belliver Prince at Newton Abbot on Boxing Day and that form was franked by the third's 15-length Worcester success only four days later.

The dangers look to be Bajan Sunshine, who has run well in both his races this season behind Crammer and Cavies Clown, and Hal's Joy, a winner of six races over hurdles in 1982-83 and sure to have been well schooled by Martin Pipe.

Fred Winter, Bajan Sunshine's trainer, has bright prospects in the Sevenoaks Novices' Chase with Wellow Will. A smart handicap hurdler three seasons ago, Wellow Will was backward when seventh in Cottage Run in an excellent race at Warwick last month. The winner, second (Rheucus), third (Starabout) and fifth (Kittinger) in that race have all won since.

Wellow Will was still travelling well when falling at the tenth in Starabout's Kempton race 12 days ago and has a good chance to open his account over fences here.

Guy Landau and Dale MacKinnon, two of the season's leading conditional jockeys, clash on MacKinnon and Star Time, both good winners last time, in the second division of the Horley



Bajan Sunshine, who will be fancied to gain his first success over fences in the EBF Novices' Chase (1.45) at Lingfield today

Novices' Hurdle with preference being for the former, who won unchallenged at the last Lingfield meeting just before Christmas.

MacKinnon's trainer, Stan Mellor, has a fine strike rate at today's other venue, Taunton, and I expect to see him improve that record with Northern Gambler in the second division of the Fresh Start Novices' Hurdle.

Atafoha and Doubleton, who finished first and second at the last Taunton meeting nine days ago, clash again in the St John Ambulance Centenary Handicap Chase, a race the former won 12 months ago.

Strictly on their latest running, Doubleton, beaten three lengths, should reverse the form on 12lb better terms but he has had a busy season and the pace of Atafoha may again prove the decisive factor.

Prize money boost for Irish National

This year's Jameson Irish Grand National will have a guaranteed value of £120,000, making it the most valuable steeplechase in Europe. It was announced in Dublin yesterday. It will also be the first six-figure National Hunt race in the European calendar.

The increased prize money represents another significant advance for Irish racing, the announcement coming just days before the inaugural running of the Ladbrokes, Europe's most valuable handicap hurdle, at Leopardstown on Saturday.

The financial growth of Irish racing is a continuing trend, and not confined to jump racing. Last year's Irish Derby, sponsored by the Guinness, was worth £123,000 to the winner Shahrastari, compared with £23,000 for his Epsom Derby success.

Prize money for the Irish Grand National, at Fairyhouse on Easter Monday, will extend to the first six finishers with £156,000 going to the winner.

A policy of upgrading the Irish Grand National, which has been assured an attractive programme, The Power Gold Cup will have a guaranteed value of £120,000 and other supporting races, the Jameson Gold Cup and the Hossa Hurdle, will carry £100,000 each.

Rapier Thurst extended his unbeaten record to five when cruising home from Diaconus in the EBF Novices' Hurdle Qualifier at Market Rasen yesterday. His long-term objective is the final of the EBF series at Cheltenham in April.

Three share top weight in Tote Gold Trophy

Aspen, Barnbrook Again and Nohaldum jointly beat 89 entries for the Tote Gold Trophy Handicap Hurdle, formerly the Schweppes Hurdle, at Newbury on February 14.

For the last early favourite, both quoted at 14-1 by the sponsors, are the Martin Pipe-trained Cats Eyes, who runs in the Ladbrokes handicap hurdle at Leopardstown on Saturday, and the mud-loving Mrs Muck.

Aspen, Barnbrook Again and Nohaldum last month, is also a popular choice at 16-1, a price he shares with another intended Leopardstown runner, Yabis.

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BADMINTON

Baddeley decision causes rumbblings

By Richard Entwistle

Steve Baddeley, the Commonwealth champion, is at loggerheads with the Badminton Association of England over his decision not to play in the world championships in Beijing, China, in May. The England No. 1 from Enfield says he is "surprised and hurt" by the comments of a spokesman of the Association who claims that he had been ill-advised.

Behind the row lies the friction about the future of the game between the BA of E and the World Association of Badminton, the management and promotion company which now handles the affairs of more than 20 top British players and which might have been expected to have been involved in a decision of this importance.

Baddeley, however, denies it: "What I object to is the statement that I was advised badly," he said. "I was advised by no one. There has been quite a bit of unacknowledged tension between the BA of E and the World Association. I can understand that people are disappointed. But I am disappointed and hurt by this reaction."

Baddeley, who finished fifth in the world grand prix table last month, says his reason for not playing is that he needs three months away from the game to build up his long term fitness and freshness. Some will no doubt also point to the fact that the world championships, rather anomalously, still do not have prize-money.

Both Baddeley and his long-term coach, Peter Frost, were outspoken critics of the lack of prize money in the BA of E which is mostly unnecessary. I can understand that people are disappointed. But I am disappointed and hurt by this reaction."

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TELEVISION AND RADIO

Edited by Peter Dear
and Peter Davalle

Close encounter with a Highland monolith



Sir Ian MacGregor: interviewed on BBC1, 10.00pm

When a man insists he is not giving his wife dirty looks across the dinner table but merely enjoying his glass of Beaujolais, it is possible to gauge the daunting nature of the task that Martin Lewis set himself in MacGregor's Verdict (BBC1, 10.00pm). Earlier in the film, microphone buffeted by the wind, and in a steady downpour of Scottish rain, Sir Ian MacGregor sufficiently lowers his guard to tell his visiting interviewer and dinner guest that, being tired of a Highlander implies a mixture of nature at its softest and most rugged. The softer side of Sir Ian does not often emerge tonight. But the rugged side becomes more rugged once the over-dinner chat and the snooker game have been put out of the way, and Lewis and MacGregor return to their armchair confrontation, and guest gets host to concentrate his

thoughts on the miners' strike which, with two notable exceptions (when he was knocked to the ground, and when he put a plastic bag over his head) he survived with his monolithic presence intact. Gently prodded by Lewis, the former Coal Board chairman is forced to admit that he could have been firmer in dealing with his PR team, but when pressed to say whether he includes Peter Walker among The Enemies Within after whom he named his recent autobiography, he responds with the impressive look that seems entirely appropriate to a man who says that he saw his long tussle with the miners as a poker game, and who claims that one of his problems in trying to achieve a settlement was

the fact that a number of his associates had never tried their hand at the game. Just for William (BBC2, 9.30pm) is an inspiring reminder of a truth that is often overlooked in a world that demands instant miracles — that while medical science still cannot guarantee a long extension of a disease-threatened life, it can at least build the bridge over which leukemia victims like nine-year-old William Clayton and his families can cross to a future with at least a glimmer of hope. In essence, Julia McLaren's 40 Minutes film is an account of a bone-marrow transplant, with the lad's sister acting as donor. The boy's ordeal is not easy to watch, but his is the stuff of champions, and this, combined with a degree of bravery by his parents which is almost beyond belief, should encourage you to

keep watching until the film's optimistic fade-out. Radio choice: The Springer Inheritance (Radio 4, 8.15pm). David Wheeler's assessment of the German press baron Axel Springer, bears just enough weight to make it a recognizably balanced portrait. Musical highlights of the day: Handel's oratorio Athalia (Radio 3, 2.00pm), with a starry cast that includes both Joan Sutherland and the beguiling Welsh boy treble Aled Jones who announced his retirement only this week; and Murray Perahia playing the Schumann Piano Concerto in the Birmingham Symphony Orchestra concert that also features the Sibelius No 7, and Nielsen's No 1 (Radio 3, 7.30 and 8.30pm).

Peter Davalle



William Clayton: Just for William, 40 Minutes, BBC2, 9.30pm

BBC1

Live transmissions on BBC TV are subject to disruption through industrial action

6.00 **Cosplay AM**
6.30 News headlines followed by The Flintstones. (r) 6.557.00 **Breakfast Time** with Frank Bough, Sally Magnusson, and Jeremy Paxman. National and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; regional news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; weather at 7.25, 7.55 and 8.25.7.40 **Watchdog**. Consumer advice. 8.55 Regional news, weather. 9.00 News and weather 9.05 Day to Day. Robert Kirby-Silk, his guests, and the studio audience, discuss a topical subject 8.45 Advice School. What are local councils doing to aid homeless families?

10.00 News and weather 10.05 Neighbours. (r) 10.25 Children's BBC. Programme news 10.30 Play School. (r) 10.50 Wilko the Wimp. (r)

10.55 Five to Eleven. Penelope Lee with a thought for the day 11.00 News and weather 11.05 Food and Drink. (r) 11.35 Open Air. (includes news and weather at 12.00)

12.25 **Wildlife Showcase**. A documentary made by Norman Lightfoot which examines the survival techniques of new-born harp seals who come from their mother's womb to sub-zero temperatures — a difference of almost 50 degrees Celsius. (r) 12.55 Regional news and weather. One O'Clock News with Philip Hayton. Weather. The O'Donnell baby swallows some pills 1.45 Flamingo. (r)2.00 **Flint Gildon of the Yard** (1983) starring Jack Hawkins in the title role, investigating a crooked policeman, three murders, a paymaster, a bank robbery, and a missing psychopath. Directed by John Ford.

David Wayne with Jean Peters in a story of 19th century America: Wait Till the Sun Shines, Nellie (Channel 4, 5.00pm)

3.40 **Just So Stories**. The Butterfly That Stamped. (r) 3.55 The Adventures of Beekle and Rocky. Part one (r) 4.00 Fingerdances. (r) 4.10 SuperTed. (r) 4.20 The Adventures of Beekle and Rocky. Part two (r) 4.25 Jackson. Part two of Tom's Sausage Lion. 4.35 Thundercats.4.45 **Newsround** with Roger Finn 5.05 Blue Peter: How to make a kaleidoscope from old Christmas cards. (Ceebees) First Class. Hillhead, Glasgow, meet Sir Andrew's, Croydon. Six O'Clock News with Nicholas Witchell and Andrew Harvey. Weather.6.35 **London Plus**. 7.00 Top of the Pops. 7.30 EastEnders. Angie hides a letter. (Ceebees) 8.00 Tomorrow's World includes news of a development by which doctors will be able to discover diseased bones; a new electric taxi-cab; a bracelet that becomes a buoyancy aid; Kew Gardens's new tropical rain forest, desert, and mangrove swamp; and an explosive tale that is helping to get rid of redundant oil rigs.8.30 **A Question of Sport**. Emily Hughes and Sir Desmond Lee are joined by Lloyd Hogganham, Judy Strimling, Bob Anderson, and Peter Beardsley. (Ceebees) 9.00 **Nine O'Clock News** with Julia Somerville and Andrew Harvey. Regional news and weather.9.30 **Bread**. A new Carla Lane comedy series, the story of a family of lower-middle-class coping, one way and another, with unemployment. 10.00 **MacGregor's Verdict**. Sir Ian MacGregor, in his first major television interview, talks to Martin Lewis. (see Choice)11.05 **Matt Houston**. Matt, investigating a string of cover girl murders, finds the trail leads to a powerful family with secrets. 11.55 Weather.

BBC 2

3.00 **Cosplay**. 3.20 News and weather. 3.40 **Lasalle**. A Western adventure in which a preacher lives to regret the way he made a living out of it. (r) 3.50 **Cosplay**. 4.00 **Lasalle**. A Western adventure in which a preacher lives to regret the way he made a living out of it. (r) 4.10 **Lasalle**. A Western adventure in which a preacher lives to regret the way he made a living out of it. (r) 4.20 **Lasalle**. A Western adventure in which a preacher lives to regret the way he made a living out of it. (r) 4.30 **Lasalle**. A Western adventure in which a preacher lives to regret the way he made a living out of it. (r) 4.40 **Lasalle**. A Western adventure in which a preacher lives to regret the way he made a living out of it. (r) 4.50 **Lasalle**. A Western adventure in which a preacher lives to regret the way he made a living out of it. (r) 5.00 **Lasalle**. A Western adventure in which a preacher lives to regret the way he made a living out of it. (r) 5.10 **Lasalle**. 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SPORT

The joy continues as England rise to the challenge

From John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent, Perth

England added the Benson and Hedges Challenge to their retention of the Ashes, when they beat Pakistan here today by five wickets with 9.5 overs to spare. Winning the toss gave them an advantage which they never surrendered.

Played in perfect weather, the match was watched by some 15,000 people, including perhaps 300 English "supporters" draped in union jacks and gathered in front of the scoreboard, whose drunken and xenophobic chanting were sickening. That some of the England team went over and hailed them after the prize-giving ceremony was equally gormless.

The pitch put a premium on bowling first, which was a pity. It had early life, being still damp to start with, so that Pakistan did well to lose no more than Shoaib's wicket in the first hour. Having done that, they were then kept down by some good English bowling to 166 for nine. After losing Broad and Athey cheaply, England, in reply, were saved from further discomfort by Gower, Lamb, and Gatting. By adding 89 for the fourth wicket, the last two made victory certain.

Without Mohsin, and with Zaheer, Majid, and the rest of them retired, it was seen, when Pakistan were batting, how much they now rely on Javed. Coming in at 36 for two in the 15th over, he scored 77 of the next 125 runs from the bat. In the sort of way that Rohan Kanhai did, Javed has a genius for the game: it simply courses through his veins. After Pakistan had lost their ninth wicket in the 41st over at 131, a quite undefeatable score, Javed allowed the last man in, Jaffer, to take only five of the 54 balls remaining. By the end, Javed had England eating out of his hand.

There had been an admirable opening spell of bow-

ing by Dilley in which he soon bowled Shoaib and could fairly be said to have deserved other wickets. It was Botham, however, bowling off an arm

slash from Qasim, running in from third man, and after Javed and Manzoor had added 38 in six overs, Gower, running to his right at mid-off, held a very good one-handed catch to get rid of Manzoor. At 127 for five, with 11 overs to go, Pakistan were still aiming at something over 200. At 131 for nine, Small, having taken three wickets in nine balls, they were glad of what more they could get, a nice low slip catch by Gatting, which accounted for Wasim, was another instance of England's enthusiasm in the field. Having come here from Melbourne after the fourth Test match without any great eagerness, they had the success to enjoy themselves, as did Pakistan. West Indies and Australia did not. There is nothing like success for breeding contentment.

Halfway through the fourth over of their innings, England were seven for two, Athey having been caught at the wicket, and Broad adjudged so. Broad's looked to be one of those decisions, all too common, in which the bowler, not the batsman, is given the benefit of the doubt. A quick 31 by Gower put England on the right road, and Lamb and Gatting then did everything that was needed of them.

After Botham had done his best to win the match and the tournament with a six, Miandad was made the man of the match, and England will leave for Sydney today some £14,000 better off.

It was suggested that not since 1912, when they won the Triangular Tournament with Australia and South Africa, had they won a tournament as such, the World Cup having so far eluded them as have other such one-day titles as go on in Sharjah. At all events it was England's fifth consecutive win in one-day internationals, starting with the Texaco Trophy last July.

ble, who had more to do with reducing Pakistan to 76 for four. Having conceded 22 runs in his first four overs, Botham's next six cost only seven, and he took the wickets of Qasim Omar, Ramiz, and Asif. As he seldom has, and has often not needed to, Botham concentrated on bowling a length and line, which comes as second nature to him when he wants to do it.

By the time Botham came off, at 88 for four after 32 overs, Pakistan were way behind the clock; and Gatting, replacing him, at once had Imran well caught at the wicket off a ball that lifted as he tried to force it through the off side. There had been an excellent diving catch by Athey at mid-wicket to get rid of Ramiz, Broad had caught a

member said. "This isn't South America. This is supposed to be Australia and to keep people in hand who were just having a good time is ridiculous."

As the fireworks burst in a clear blue, late afternoon sky, six spectators from the English enclosure tried to race across the field to the podium from which Rodney Marsh, the former Australian wicket-keeper, was about to present Javed Miandad with the man of the match award. Most were tackled by stewards and police but one swift mover side-stepped three constables before being flattened by a short arm jab.

The England team acknowledged their supporters with waves from the presentation area but, a few minutes later, five of them, including Dilley, Small and DeFreitas, ran across the field towards the sea of Union Jacks. However, they were stopped by stewards and turned back.

Generally, the support from the English contingent had been noisy but good-natured and, once again, a few individuals seem to have added a sour note to an otherwise joyous occasion for an England cricket team that, suddenly, can do no wrong.

Police blamed excessive drinking for the incident, but three Australians came over from the members' enclosure to complain that the police had not dealt with the situation sensibly. "The police were way out of order," one WACA

member said. "This isn't South America. This is supposed to be Australia and to keep people in hand who were just having a good time is ridiculous."

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On the up: Gatting and Richards celebrate Imran's downfall (Photograph: Graham Morris)

West Indies call off tour to Caribbean by Australia

Perth (Reuters) — The West Indies have cancelled the 1987-88 tour by Australia, David Richards, the Australian Cricket Board chief executive, confirmed yesterday. But officials here said their West Indies counterparts are most disappointed the tour will not go ahead.

Richards said the tour was called off because the Australian team would not be able to arrive in the Caribbean until March. The West Indies wanted the tour to begin in the second week of February, he said.

Some of the West Indians, with English county commitments, would not be available for the final games of a tour beginning in March and running into June.

But some officials suggested the ACB was reluctant to have Australia's young side exposed to the West Indies in 10 Test matches in a calendar year. The West Indies are scheduled to tour Australia during the 1988-89 season. Australia have only won one of the last 10 Tests against six by the West Indies.

Australia, as a prelude to

October's World Cup in India and Pakistan, will play one Test and three one-day internationals in Sri Lanka, who will tour Australia next season as the third nation in the World Series Cup. Sri Lanka will play a Test here from February 12-16, 1988, shortly after the Australia versus England Bicentenary Test at the Sydney Cricket Ground on the Australia Day weekend.

The cancellation of the tour makes sense for both parties (John Woodcock writes). The West Indians, anyway, will be in Australia later in the same year for a full series of Test matches and one-day games,

and the Australians are happy for their batsmen to escape the battering that is now an inevitable part of a West Indian tour.

The sponsors of the Shell Shield, the West Indian equivalent of the County Championship and the Sheffield Shield, will also be pleased for once to have the field to themselves, having been forced to halve the competition last season. The last thing the West Indians want is to upset their sponsors, and even an Australian tour of the Caribbean brings the West Indian Board of Control a financial loss.

Five counties — Hamp-

shire, Lancashire, Northamptonshire, Somerset and Warwickshire — have all expressed an interest in Dilley, whose contract expired at the end of last year.

Neil Mallender is considering a firm offer from Yorkshire and the former Northamptonshire fast bowler will make a decision over his future in the next few days.

Bingham's qualities as a manager are not in dispute; his record in his eight years at the helm brooks no argument — but it is his ability to keep in touch with the realities of the situation at a time when it is of the utmost importance to Northern Ireland that raises doubts.

The game has been switched from Telford by the FA much to the annoyance of residents living near the Albion ground. Police have issued a set of guidelines to anyone going to the all-ticket game. They say there is no point in turning up without a ticket.

White, who had beaten Terry Griffiths 5-3 in the quarter-finals on Tuesday night, talked about the two foul shots which Griffiths called on himself when he touched the cue ball in the third and fourth frames of the match. "Terry could have stayed down and no one would have known the difference," White said. "I would have known the difference. I am desperate to win but not desperate enough to cheat," Griffiths added.

QUARTER-FINALS: S. Hendry (50) beat S. Francisco (34) 5-3. P. Bevan (50) beat J. Griffiths (34) 5-3. P. Bevan (50) beat J. Griffiths (34) 5-3. P. Bevan (50) beat J. Griffiths (34) 5-3.

Looking quietly composed.

Foley given a one month touchline ban

Theo Foley, the Arsenal assistant manager, has been fined £200 and given a one-month touchline ban by the Football Association after being found guilty of bringing the game into disrepute. Foley was ordered out of the dug-out during last month's first division game at Norwich by the referee, Treford Mills, of Barnsley. He was charged with "directing foul and abusive language at a linesman" during the match.

Foley, who appeared with the Arsenal manager, George Graham at yesterday's hearing in London, was also ordered to pay the costs of the disciplinary commission. The ban begins on January 19, although he has 14 days to appeal against the decision.

Doug Koungie, the Chelsea defender, was censured and warned as to his future conduct after also being found guilty on a disciplinary charge. The Scottish full back was charged with "failing to immediately leave the field of play when ordered to do so by the referee, Howard King of Mid-Glamorgan." He has already served an automatic, two-match ban for the sending-off, which came in the 4-0 defeat by Wimbledon last month.

Mark Dennis, of Southampton, was fined £250 after being found guilty of bringing the game into disrepute in a newspaper article. After a one-hour hearing, he was also

warned about his future conduct. The full back, who has been sent off 10 times in a troublesome career, revealed in a newspaper interview that he had been involved in a fight with his club colleague, Peter Shilton. It is the second time that Dennis has been warned about his behaviour this season. The player made no comment going into the meeting at the FA's Lancaster Gate headquarters and left by a backdoor to escape waiting reporters, television crews and photographers.

Billy Gilbert, the Portsmouth defender, was fined £350 for "directing an insulting and improper gesture" at the referee, Kelvin Morton of Suffolk, after being sent off at Sheffield United in December. Gilbert, who has already served a two-match ban, was also warned about his future conduct and ordered to pay part of the costs of the hearing.

Mick Tait, another of the three Portsmouth players dismissed in an explosive match in which Sheffield United also had one player sent off, was also found guilty of bringing the game into disrepute. Tait was said to have made foul and abusive comments to the match officials. He was fined £200 and costs and warned as to his future conduct.

Afterwards neither player would comment but the Portsmouth chairman, John Deacon said: "We are not satisfied with the decisions and we will be appealing."

FA look at Bingham's future

By George Ace

Billy Bingham's future as the part-time manager of the Northern Ireland team is almost certain to be discussed by the Irish Football Association international committee before the end of the season. Bingham is, at present, coaching the El Nasser club in Saudi Arabia for a reported salary of £100,000 for a 12-month contract.

He accepted the Arab offer after the World Cup finals in Mexico last summer, though, at the time, he informed the IFA that if they were prepared to appoint him full-time manager, he would forego the offer from Saudi Arabia. On purely financial grounds, the IFA could not entertain the idea of a full-time manager. What is worrying some members of the international committee is the distinct possibility of Bingham taking up the option in his contract of another 12-month stint. There is a growing feeling within the committee, that as one member put it, "you cannot manage from afar."

The Northern Ireland squad is going through a transitional period with many of the men who wrote such a glorious page in football history in the World Cup finals in Spain in 1982 and played major roles in gaining a qualifying place in Mexico last summer, no longer available. It is this aspect of the international panel that is causing concern, allied to the fact that Northern Ireland have not raised a winning flag in their last six internationals.

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£12 million scheme unveiled

Northampton Town, the fourth division leaders, have unveiled a £12 million scheme to move to a new 17,500 capacity stadium in the town.

The scheme, subject to approval from the local authorities — sees the new ground as part of a shopping park. Wilson (Connolly) Properties Ltd, who are based in Northampton, have submitted the plan which includes the 7,500-seat stadium, an international athletics track and provision for a dry ski slope. If planning permission is approved, Northampton, who presently play at the County Ground, where Northamptonshire County Cricket Club play during the summer, hope to start the 1989/90 season on the new ground.

Derek Banks, the football club's chairman, said: "This project will provide a show piece for the town and a facility where sport in Northampton can develop to its full potential."

Police poised to act at Cup flashpoint

West Midlands police are mounting a big operation for the visit of Leeds United to West Bromwich Albion for the FA Cup clash against non-league Telford United on Sunday. About 320 officers will be on duty at The Hawthorns for the noon kick-off, including 20 mounted police.

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Looking quietly composed.

Grim forecast
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YACHTING

Cudmore beats colleagues to win top award

From Barry Pickthall, Fremantle

Harold Cudmore, the exuberant Irishman who skippered Britain's America's Cup challenge, has been voted "Yachtsman of the Year".

Cudmore, aged 42, will receive the award at a champagne reception in Fremantle today for his achievement earlier last year in becoming the first non-American to win the America's Cup in the match racing hierarchy.

The event, held each March off Long Beach, California, always attracts top talent from around the world and last year Cudmore, who has won the British Lymington Cup match race championship a record six times, beat off challenges from New Zealand's America's Cup skipper, Chris Dickson, the Bond helmsman, Colin Beasdale, and Terry McLaughlin, from Canada.

GOLF

Clark is invited to his first US Masters

By Mitchell Platts

Howard Clark yesterday learned that he has been invited to make his first appearance in the US Masters, which will unfold at Augusta, Georgia, on April 9-12. Clark will be joined in the elite field, which already includes Severiano Ballesteros, Bernard Langer and Sandy Lyle, by Jose-Maria Olazabal, of Spain, who has also received a special invitation.

"I can't say how thrilled I am," Clark said. "I have already telephoned Augusta in order to accept the invitation and to tell them how delighted I am. I would like to think that I can get an invitation to the Greater Greensboro Open of the previous week, which would make it two nice weeks in America. If I do not then I will still go to Augusta the previous week and I will most certainly be treating the Masters with all the respect it deserves."

Clark had hoped that his career would be recognized by United States officials when he followed an excellent season in Europe in 1985, when he won twice, by ending that

year by becoming the individual champion at the United Cup at La Quinta, near Palm Springs, California.

However, he was overlooked by the US Masters Committee, as he had been in 1984 when he finished third in the European Order of Merit, but he again won twice last year (Madrid Open and Epsom Grand Prix) when he was third in the Epsom Order of Merit with £121,902. Clark will get an early taste of American golf in 1987 when he competes in the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am in California on January 29-February 1 and he is hopeful that another invitation might be forthcoming to either the San Diego or Los Angeles opens.

Olazabal earned an invitation to Augusta in 1985 as the British amateur champion and his first appearance as a professional was widely anticipated following an outstanding "rookie" season in Europe when he won twice (Ebel European Masters and Sanyo Open) and finished second in the Order of Merit with £136,775.

Boycott threat

The International Campaign Against Apartheid Sport, which has links with the United Nations, has threatened to seek a boycott by many top cricketing nations of the MCC's bicentenary match against a Rest of the World XI if any South African citizens are included (Paul Martin writes).

The warning was delivered yesterday by Ahmed Mangera, the committee's South African representative and a senior figure in the small anti-establishment South African Cricket Board.

The MCC yesterday said no South Africans would be chosen — but any player involved in county cricket, including Clive Rice and Garth Le Roux, would be eligible as county players.

Fee contested

Andy Gregory, the Great Britain and Warrington scrum half, has failed to get the Rugby League management committee to reduce his £150,000 transfer fee. A board of appeal is to be set up.

SPORT IN BRIEF



Nelson: a lightweight

Nelson's move

Azumah Nelson, of Ghana, holder of the World Boxing Council featherweight title, will make his debut as a lightweight tomorrow, the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reported yesterday. Nelson will meet Aaron Duruibe, who holds the Nigerian and West African lightweight crown, over 10 rounds in Cotonou, the capital of Benin.

Jean-Marc Renard, of Belgium, will defend his European junior-lightweight title against the Italian, Antonio Renzo, in Cazenno, Italy, on February 18.

Bishop waits

The Welsh international scrum half, David Bishop will be kept in the dark over the outcome of last night's appeal on an eleven months ban. The Welsh Rugby Union will not be able to announce the result of his appeal until shortly before the WRU make a public announcement at 10am tomorrow.

Decision time

Sussex will know next week whether their highly-rated fast bowler Adrian Jones is to join another county. Jones, aged 25, is now a free agent after his contract expired on December 31, and Glamorgan, Northamptonshire, Lancashire, Somerset and Surrey are all thought to be interested.

Nystrom out

Sweden's Joakim Nystrom, ranked seventh in the world, has withdrawn from the Australian Open tennis tournament beginning next week. Nystrom, in Melbourne last month with the unsuccessful Swedish Davis Cup final team, has been forced to withdraw because of a knee injury.